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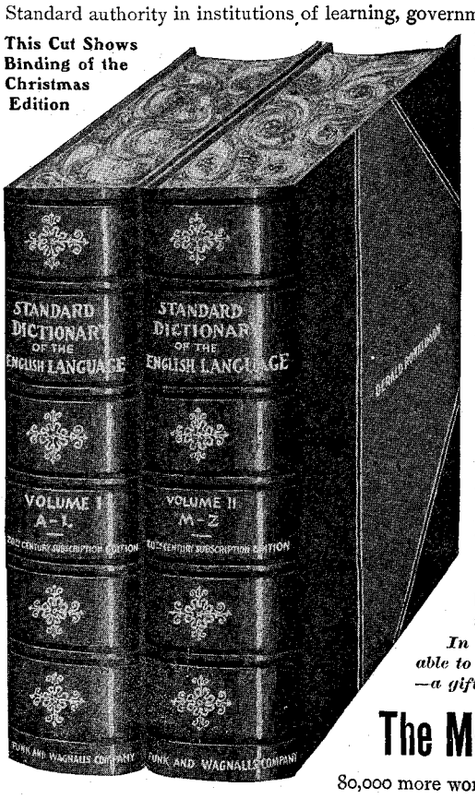

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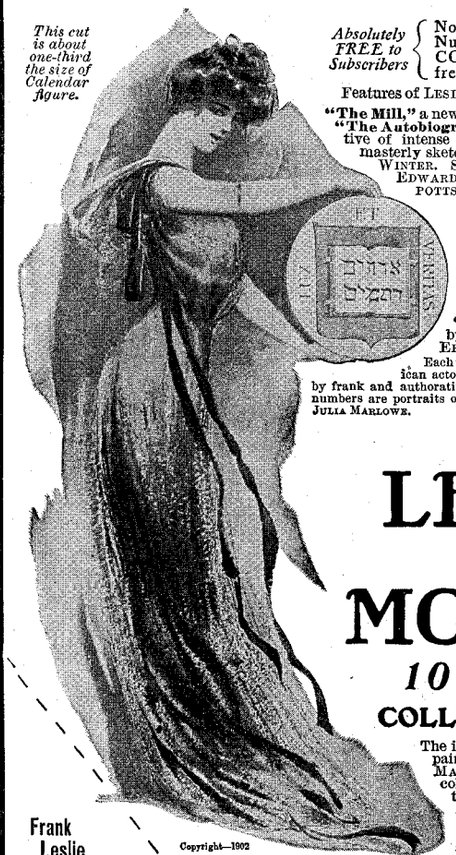

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

AMERICAN VIEWS OF PRESIDENT CASTRO AND HIS CREDITORS.

"A VERY general weariness with Castro," according to the Columbus *Dispatch*, marks the temper of the people of this country toward the Venezuelan President, who is now being dunned by British and German squadrons for debts long overdue to citizens of those nationalities. England also has a dispute with Venezuela over the ownership of Patos Island, which island is described as "a series of big bluffs, formerly the shelter of pirates." Just how much Venezuela owes to the aggrieved British and German citizens has not been authoritatively announced, and the newspapers have reckoned the amount all the way from $1,500,000 to $25,000,000. Castro himself seems to have been very much surprised to hear of these debts. He is reported as saying: "Up to the present time we have not been aware of them. Never having been presented, Venezuela has consequently never refused to settle them." He has called upon the citizens to support the nation's honor—not by paying the alleged debts, but by repelling the collectors. Simultaneously he issued a most flattering eulogy of the United States, and expressed the hope that we would protect Venezuela from European aggression. This hope having so far failed, he has announced his willingness to submit the entire debt question to arbitration.

PRESIDENT CASTRO AND HIS CABINET.

Castro is the central figure, contemplating the small globe. It is suggested that he is shaking his fist at those sections of the globe representing England and Germany.

It seems to be pretty well understood in Washington, London, and Berlin that England and Germany consulted our Government before sending their war-ships on this bill-collecting expedition, and made it clear that they would not in any way infringe upon the Monroe Doctrine. President Roosevelt, it is widely believed, had Venezuela particularly in mind when he said in his recent message that it behooves each of the South American republics "to maintain order within its own borders, and to discharge its just obligations to foreigners." He added, speaking of the Monroe Doctrine: "We do not guarantee any state against punishment if it misconducts itself, provided that punishment does not take the form of the acquisition of territory by any non-American Power." The London correspondent of the New York *Tribune* says that European investors have lost something like $300,000,000 in the South American countries from the defaults of governments and corporations. He says further:

"Shrewd lawyers predict that the outcome of the naval demonstration will be the establishment of an arbitration commission to which all claims, American and French, as well as English and German, will be submitted for a critical examination. The superiority of a commission of this kind to a fleet under two flags as a collecting agency for miscellaneous debts, good, bad, and indifferent, is admitted by city men well versed in the methods of South American finance, in which face values are deceptive and extortionate rates of interest and loans forced on taxpayers are common expedients. Some of them will frankly admit that, while the general effect of the Venezuelan affair will be a salutary warning that foreign creditors must not be cheated, and that honesty is the best policy for tropical America, the collection of debts by naval demonstrations or bombardments is a privilege open to grave abuse, especially if the loans are forced by speculative adventurers on unwilling nations, and a good share of the money never has reached the capitals where the loans were authorized."

England and Germany are criticized as severely for their methods of collecting the Venezuelan debts as President Castro is for his methods of avoiding and resisting payment. If Castro's arrest of British and German citizens last week was contrary to the usages of war, the scuttling of Castro's navy by the allies after capture is considered unnecessary from a military standpoint, and unremunerative from a bill-collector's standpoint. Such is the criticism of many American newspapers. Further criticisms of the allies is expressed in the following paragraph from the New York *World:*

"It is plainly to be seen that a blockade actually destroying Venezuela's commerce can not help the Anglo-German investors in the long run. The duties collected on $8,500,000 of imports

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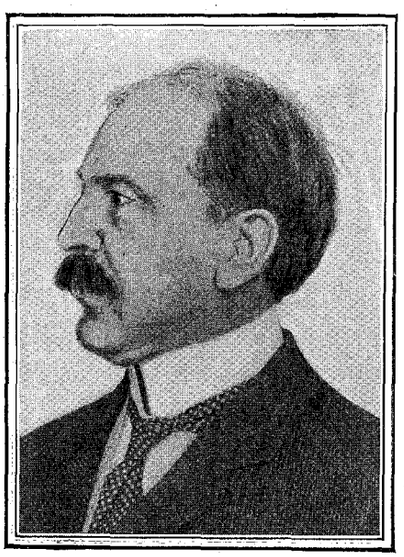
will certainly not pay the arrears of interest, to say nothing of the large cost of blockading. There is the possibility of bombarding the coast cities, but that would not collect any money. And as for landing forces to do things inland—well, the Boers have shown how big and costly a fight a few fighting people can draw a big but far-off nation into. There is indeed much point in the London *Post's* remark that it is not worth Germany's and Great Britain's while 'to spend millions in coercing a country which can not be annexed and is likely to prove bankrupt.'"



HERBERT W. BOWEN,

United States Minister to Venezuela. He is protecting the British and German residents of Caracas, and is using his influence for peace.

Apprehension that England and Germany will overstep the limits prescribed by the Monroe Doctrine is apparent in the American press as a whole, and a number of papers think that the allies have already gone too far. Their demonstration in the Caribbean seems to the Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* to be "an insolent and defiant challenge of the Monroe Doctrine—a cut across the face with a whip." And the New York *American* declares that "it grates upon our sensibilities to see an American republic kicked and cuffed by a brace of European monarchies that would not dare to proceed to such extremes against any but a power they deem too weak to offer formidable resistance." The Chicago *Inter Ocean* and the Baltimore *American* demand that Admiral Dewey be sent to Venezuelan waters with a strong fleet to protect our interests and the Doctrine from injury.

The Boston *Journal* seems to think that Castro deserves more sympathy than his creditors do. It says:

"Let us put ourselves in the place of the Venezuelans. Let us imagine that in the last critical months of our own Civil War, when the nation was strained to the utmost to support its armies and maintain its credit at home and abroad, Great Britain and Germany had suddenly delivered an ultimatum at Washington for the immediate payment of the claims of their subjects who had suffered in the progress of the war, and had sent fleets of ironclads to threaten New York and Boston. Would that have been an act of friendliness? Would we not rather have interpreted it as an act of almost malignant cruelty? Would we have paid those claims, save as we were actually coerced by the muzzles of shotted cannon?

"Yet Great Britain and Germany are now doing exactly this toward little Venezuela, a nation feeble at best, whose Government has spent its last dollar and its last ounce of strength against a formidable insurrection. Great Britain and Germany can crush and humiliate such a Government, but they can not force it to pay gold when it has none. These European Powers have nobody but themselves to blame if the belief swiftly strengthens among the American people that London and Berlin are guilty of an act of cowardice and dishonor."

Foreign press comments on the relation of the Monroe Doctrine to the proceedings in Venezuela will be found in our Foreign Topics department.

FUEL SHORTAGE IN NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND.

THE situation in many of the cities of New England and New York and in Philadelphia caused by the shortage of coal is regarded as unprecedented. Last week, when the cold wave extended over a large part of the country, with the mercury falling in some places as low as 32° below zero, the accounts of suffering among the poor were pathetic. Several deaths from freezing were reported. In New York city the board of aldermen unanimously passed a resolution calling for an appropriation of $100,000 to supply coal to the poor, and many coal companies and an ice company distributed coal at eight, ten, and fifteen cents a pail. At each place the people, mostly women and children, waited in line hours before they purchased their tickets and received their buckets of coal; but in many instances hundreds were turned away empty-handed, the supply having been exhausted.

Coal riots on a small scale are reported in New York, Boston,

UNCLE SAM: "I don't object to your method, but don't stay there too long." —*The Philadelphia Press.*

LOT OF FUSS OVER A FEW FEATHERS. —*The New York Herald.*

CARTOON GLIMPSES OF CASTRO.

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and New Haven. In Brooklyn and Manhattan cars are run with little or no heat, the companies claiming that they are unable to secure coal enough for both power and heat. In Philadelphia the almshouse increased its population 120 in three days. The Salvation Army and the charity organizations are attempting to relieve the suffering, but they, too, say they are unable to secure enough coal. The poor are not suffering alone, for the middle class and the well-to-do, tho they have the money to pay for it, are experiencing difficulty in securing adequate supplies for household use.

President Baer, of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, said, last week, that the companies are making extra efforts to rush coal to tidewater, but that the shortage caused by the coal strike and the demand caused by the sudden cold wave left an enormous hole to fill. He declared that the output of coal for November last was 300,000 tons greater than that of November, 1901, and that the ouptut for this December will probably exceed last December's by some 1,500,000 tons. The belief is widespread that there is plenty of coal to be had, and that somebody is holding it back to make the profit that conditions make possible. The Springfield *Republican* says:

"The promise that these conditions will be considerably moderated ere long is most welcome, and we are all ready to be as cheerful as possible under the trying circumstances. At the best there will be hardship and there will be loss. People are going to make the best of it, to keep house and do business; but in any event it will be a winter long to be remembered—one standing out apart from all others in the annals of the country; and one notable for its severities of human experience, not because of the impositions of nature which have signalized certain years in past time, but because of the foolishness, the short-sightedness, the devil-may-care spirit of man himself."

"If a food famine prevailed anywhere on the face of the earth," says the Philadelphia *Ledger*, "our citizens would, as they have often done, go to the help of the suffering people. They should now go to their help during this coal shortage, which inflicts upon the poor so much suffering and distress." The Baltimore *American* remarks:

"The situation becomes more and more desperate every day, and the public demands that all roads which carry coal must give that article the right of way, if need be sidetracking all other traffic until some relief is given. There must be no more holding up of the output for higher prices, no more favoritism shown to this city or that city, but all must be treated alike and must get all the coal the roads can carry. The responsibility resting upon these roads has become a terrible one, and they must be called to strict account if they allow any hope of excessive profits to stand in the way of efforts to supply the crying need for fuel."

The New York *American*, a strong advocate of public ownership of public utilities, declares that "we are getting in full measure the fruits of private ownership of the coal-mines." The Brooklyn *Eagle*, however, does not hold the coal strike wholly responsible for the distress among the poor. It says:

"The reports from the bureau of charities and other organizations of the kind show that the giving has been less general and less generous this fall than in any recent season. One reason for that is undoubtedly the mild weather which has put out of mind the thought of hardship and suffering which comes to the prosperous with the cold. Another reason is the generally increased cost of living. Not only is coal high and scarce, but provisions are higher than for years. There must be thousands of people living upon large salaries, who usually have money to respond to charitable appeals, but who this year find themselves taxed to meet just their ordinary family expenses. Prosperous wage-earners are usually quick to hear the cry of distress from those lower down in the scale, but this year their hands are tied in buying coal and meat for their own families. Therefore, the greater burden is left for the comparatively few at the top of the ladder, who do not feel the pinch of high prices. The army of relief is smaller, and those who work in it must work harder and more generously than ever. Fortunately the extreme cold has moderated, but it will return. The scarcity and high prices of coal will continue all winter. Therefore, generous gifts to the bureau of charities, and to other organizations which have a clientage of applicants, are needed. He is twice blessed who gives quickly."

MORE TROUBLE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THAT the end of war is not always the beginning of peace is again illustrated in the Philippines and in South Africa. In South Africa the complications that have arisen since peace was "declared" have become so serious as to require the presence of Secretary Chamberlain. The troubles there were dealt with at some length in our department of Foreign Topics (November 22). The troubles in the Philippines appear to be the usual famine, disease, and brigandage that follow in the wake of war. Secretary Root tells about them in his annual report. The paragraphs on this subject, however, were placed at the end of the report; many newspapers, in cutting it down for publication, omitted them, and nearly all the editorial writers seem to have read into the report only far enough to discuss army reorganization and the canteen. Two of the anti-expansionist papers, however, bring to the attention of their readers this "catalog of the blessings incidental to the process of benevolent assimilation," as the Philadelphia *North American* (Ind.) calls it. The Baltimore *News* (Ind.) recalls a recent speech of the President in which he said that the islands are enjoying "a greater measure of prosperity and of happiness than the Filipinos have ever hitherto known in all their dark and checkered history," and then prints some of the paragraphs from his Secretary's report, to give a more definite idea of this "measure of prosperity." Says Mr. Root:

"The rinderpest has destroyed about 90 per cent. of all their carabaos, leaving them without draft animals to till their land and aid in the ordinary work of farm and village life. Carabaos have increased in price from $20 to $200 (Mexican). The Eastern disease known as 'surra' has killed and is killing the native and American horses, further cripling transportation. The rice crop has been reduced to 25 per cent. of the ordinary crop. Last year in the Visayan islands and this year in Luzon a plague of locusts has come upon the land, destroying much of the remaining 25 per cent. of the rice crop. A drought in China and the fall in the price of silver have raised the price of rice from $4 to $7 a picul. The commission has been obliged to go out of the islands and use insular funds to buy over 40,000,000 pounds of rice to save the people from perishing by famine.

"Cholera has raged and is raging throughout the islands. The ignorance of the people and their unwillingness to submit to sanitary regulations have made it almost impossible to check the ravages of the disease, which, it is estimated, will claim not less than 100,000 victims. The decline in the price of silver has carried Mexican dollars down from a ratio of 2 to 1 in gold to a ratio of over 2½ to 1, and this has borne heavily on the commercial interests and on the wage-earners.

"The insular government has in 10 months lost over $1,000,000 gold by the decline in silver because it was operating on a silver basis, and this has changed the surplus of revenues into a deficit at the very time when the other causes mentioned have caused an extraordinary demand for the use of the revenues for the relief of the people.

"Agriculture is prostrated. Commerce is hampered and discouraged. All the political parties in the Philippines urgently demand a change of the present currency standard. Some relief would be afforded by opening a profitable market in the United States to the products of the islands. Still greater relief would be afforded by delivering the business of the islands from the disastrous effects of the decline in the price of silver and the fluctuations in exchange, and putting it upon the substantial basis of the gold standard currency which exists in the United States, where we wish them to do their business."

An expansionist view of this picture may be seen in the following comment by the Cleveland *Leader* (Rep.):

"In the face of these conditions tending to stop commerce and

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THE CHRISTMAS DINNER OF THE FUTURE.
—*The Chicago News.*

upset the industries of the Philippines, it is remarkable that gains can be reported in the foreign trade of the islands, just as is the case in Cuba and Porto Rico. It appears certain that under normal circumstances American rule will stimulate the industrial and business growth of all of the islands taken from Spain which remain under our flag, and if the President has his way regarding Cuban trade relations with the United States, that little republic will enjoy unprecedented prosperity and progress.

"Nature will not always make American administration as difficult as possible in the newly acquired islands of the tropics."

A TIMELY HINT TO "SANTA."
—*The New York World.*

A CHRISTMAS SACRIFICE.

THE wholesale cutting down of young firs and spruces for "Christmas-trees" and other decorations moves *Arboriculture*, a forestry magazine, to remind its readers that this Christmas custom, at once so beautiful and so destructive, is making serious inroads upon our forests. And the protest is being taken up by several other journals. Thus the Philadelphia *Press* says:

"There is no prettier custom than decorating homes and churches with evergreens at Christmas time. It adds a charm to the season which can not be gained in any other way. But to obtain this it ought not to be necessary to deprive the next generation of its forestry resource. And this is surely being done in the reckless cutting away of young spruce at this season of the year. An effectual check can be put upon the practise by requiring every vender of Christmas-trees to prove that the trees he offers for sale were raised for the purpose and not cut from forest lands. Prompt efforts in this way should be taken."

The farmer who cuts down and sells his young trees will be the chief sufferer from this deforestation, yet he receives only about half a cent apiece for them. The Boston *Transcript* says:

"Christmas-trees are cut in the woods of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and shipped to Boston, New York, and Philadelphia by the carload. The farmers get about $1 a 'load,' the load being about two hundred trees. As it takes about ten 'loads' to a car, and the carload sells to the dealers for about four cents per tree for the smaller sizes to twenty cents a tree for the larger, and the trees then retail for from twenty-five cents to $5 apiece, it looks as tho the farmer is getting, as usual, decidedly the small end of the bargain.

"Now a judicious cutting of young trees is something which practical foresters and arboriculturists are agreed upon. But in the cutting of Christmas-trees for market, no such intelligent policy as thinning is followed. The Christmas-trees are cut wherever they can be found in the largest quantity. The result is that only a miserable new growth is left, and this in a few years becomes of value only for wood. While we are cutting off the grown spruce forests for paper stock, it would seem as tho we ought to be doing something to provide a new marketable crop of trees in the future. Instead of this, however, the farmers of New England are in many cases working at both ends of the line and cutting the young growth for Christmas-trees.

"It is not at all likely that we shall be willing to give up our Christmas-trees at whatever cost. So long as the annual festival of the nativity comes around and people make gifts, we shall witness this sacrifice. But the fault lies with the farmer and the owner of forest trees who permits an unrestricted slaughter of his young spruces and firs which will in a few years return him a much better crop. The short-sighted policy of allowing the land to be skinned is responsible for much of the decadence of rural New England, and the remedy lies in the hands of those who supply the trees for the dealers. Probably an insistence upon a larger share of the profit, and a refusal to furnish young trees at half a cent apiece, to be sold in the markets of Boston and other cities at from fifty cents to a dollar, would have a decided effect in checking the evil. So long, however, as the people of New England are willing to supply Christ-

WILLING WILLIE, OR JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS.
—*The Cleveland Leader.*

CHRISTMAS IDEAS IN CARTOON.

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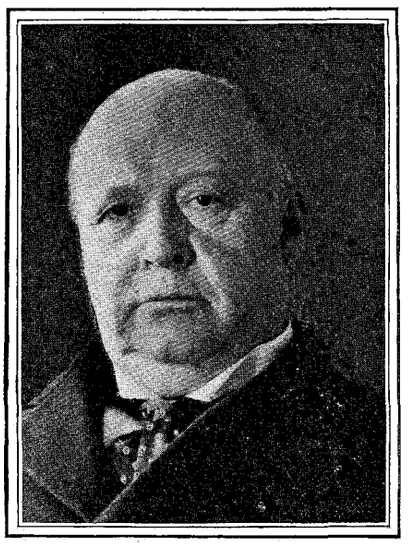
mas-trees at a price which barely pays for the wear and tear of the tools used, there will be a demand for Christmas-trees. The remedy must come in a wider extension of knowledge regarding arboriculture, and that knowledge, to be of value, must be in the hands of those who own the trees."

MR. REED'S FAREWELL WORDS ON THE TRUSTS AND THE TARIFF.

ONE of the most notable of ex-Speaker Reed's public utterances appeared barely a week before his death. Nowhere have his intellectual keenness and incisive style been more evident than in this article, published in the December *North American Review*, in which he handles some popular ideas in regard to the trusts, the tariff, and reciprocity. Are these great aggregations of capital necessarily a peril, and is the peril to be averted by legislation? Mr. Reed seems to answer both questions in the negative:



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THOMAS B. REED.

His last article is a strong protest against tariff revision.

"But are we to be exposed to the mercy of those people who pile up millions, and have we no remedy by law or constitutional amendment? Yes, we have many remedies on the stump and in the newspapers. But the experience of mankind is universal, that Providence has not left us to the stump-orator or the newspapers, or even to the statesman. Somehow—after much blundering, perhaps, but somehow—every new movement has in itself the element of protection of the race. For instance, we are all afraid of monopolies; we fear that somebody by some new scheme will squeeze us permanently, and yet that has never happened. But, you will say, what can prevent these great aggregations of capital from charging what they like? The answer is, that what prevents them from charging an unfair price is the well-founded fear that they will thereby risk and lose the vast sums already piled up. In other words, the same state of the world, the same general wealth, which enabled one big pile of capital to get together, will enable a larger pile to get together and, by means of more modern machinery, to destroy the attempted monopoly. When one set of capitalists of great renown a year or two ago attempted to take control of Pacific business, the undertaking was not so vast as to prevent men whose names were, up to that time, but little known from meeting them and making, at least, a drawn battle. The fact is that every business man now knows that the only monopoly anybody can get, except the temporary one of patents, to which no one objects, is by producing some article cheaper and selling it cheaper than any other maker. Whether such a monopoly is obnoxious and to be stamped out I leave to the wise declamation of the friends of the people."

In regard to "publicity" as a trust cure, and measures to prevent stock-watering or "over-capitalization," Mr. Reed says rather incisively:

"Almost everybody announces that what we need is 'publicity.' Even this is vague. Do you expect the public to be intrusted with the cost sheets? If you do not, then what will your publicity amount to? If you mean by 'publicity' such a statement as will enable the outsider to buy wisely, or the stockholder to sell at the true value, I fear we may be going beyond the province of free government, which certainly thus far has left the task of keeping his fingers out of the fire to the citizen whose fingers they were.

"But can not we stop this stock-watering? Must we not do it? Well, the value of stock is very much a matter of opinion. It will be noticed that the stock of one of our greatest companies can be bought for less than forty dollars. The par value is one hundred. In the judgment of the world there is sixty per cent. water, and in the market the water is squeezed out. Could a legislature do it more effectually? As that same stock sold at fifty-five, there was a time when there was only forty-five per cent. of water. Is it proposed in the new constitutional amendment to specify how often the test for water is to be applied? Are the stockholders to be assessed daily for the variations of each day, or are the directors to be indicted daily? Shall officers of the Government determine the value, or the public in open market?

"There is a piece of wisdom as old as the world, which is worthy of all consideration. Let us not be in haste about great matters. When you don't know what to do, don't do it. If the proposition is to press an oak back into an acorn, it had better be carefully considered."

No stronger argument in favor of letting the Dingley tariff alone has appeared, probably, than the one contained in Mr. Reed's article. Tariff tinkering is a perilous business: "What would you say was the ideal industrial condition of a nation? Everybody at work. Just now we have everybody at work. And yet we think we want something else. If we keep on fussing we shall get it." The idea of a tariff commission is dismissed with ridicule as impracticable. Reciprocity is likewise condemned. Reciprocity in general has had many able advocates, including President McKinley, and reciprocity with Cuba has seemingly been favored by a large majority of the people, outside of Congress, including the President. But Mr. Reed opposes both, as may be seen in the following quotation:

"The history of reciprocity the world over has been that any treaty thus far devised has been one-sided, and the country losing has put an end to it. We tried it with Canada. Our export trade increased thirteen per cent., and theirs increased in eleven years five hundred per cent. That treaty no longer exists. We had one with the Sandwich Islands, and on the average we gave them $5,000,000 remitted sugar duties a year, and sold them $4,000,000 worth of goods. In other words, we gave them all our exports and a million dollars besides. This is what the friends of free trade were trying to do for Cuba when we were so apprehensive that that island would be ruined if we did not give in charity what had no foundation in justice. . . . . .

"The low price of sugar in Cuba is the same low price which pervades all the West Indies, and is caused by the substitution of the beet, a better sugar-producer than the cane. In a word, a great output of sugar lowers the price. Suppose a great grain crop sent prices down. Would we make it up to our farmers out of our Treasury? Of course not. If we can not do this thing to our farmers who stay at home, why should we do so to those who go abroad to develop other lands?"

This, then, is his conclusion:

"We have a tariff carefully drawn, which has served us well. That tariff is only five years old. It has brought us away up on the hill-side of success. It has no connection with great corporations, except that it has with small corporations and individuals. No attack by repealing the Dingley act can hurt one without hurting all. Any disturbance of that kind would disturb trade in ways with which we are all too familiar.

"A tariff bill at any time is not and can not be the creature of one mind. It means the result of a contest by all interests and all minds. Hence, whenever any man thinks of a tariff he would make, he always thinks of a tariff bill which will never be enacted.

"There was once a President of the United States, of great power and influence. For four years he had no Congress behind him, and he dreamed of such a tariff-reform law as would suit him. By-and-by, he had a Congress of his own party, and he started in to make such a law as would please both gods and

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men. There are those who remember the dismal look of the members of the House when they yielded to the Senate, and the averted looks of the President as he let the bill pass by, unsigned and friendless. To those men it became apparent, as it should be to the whole world, that the tariff enacted is always different from the act in your mind. Is the Republican party ready to open the box, knowing that, once it is open, only hope is left behind?"

THE ARMY "CANTEEN" ONCE MORE.

THE friends and foes of the army "canteen" are promptly on hand at the opening of Congress, the one side to show that the sobriety of the soldier is promoted by the canteen's presence, and the other to show that it is promoted by the canteen's absence. The sale of liquor has been prohibited at the army posts for more than a year now, so that comparisons of conditions with and without the canteen are easily made. The National Anti-Saloon League, at its annual session in Washington last week, unanimously adopted an "address" containing the following paragraphs:

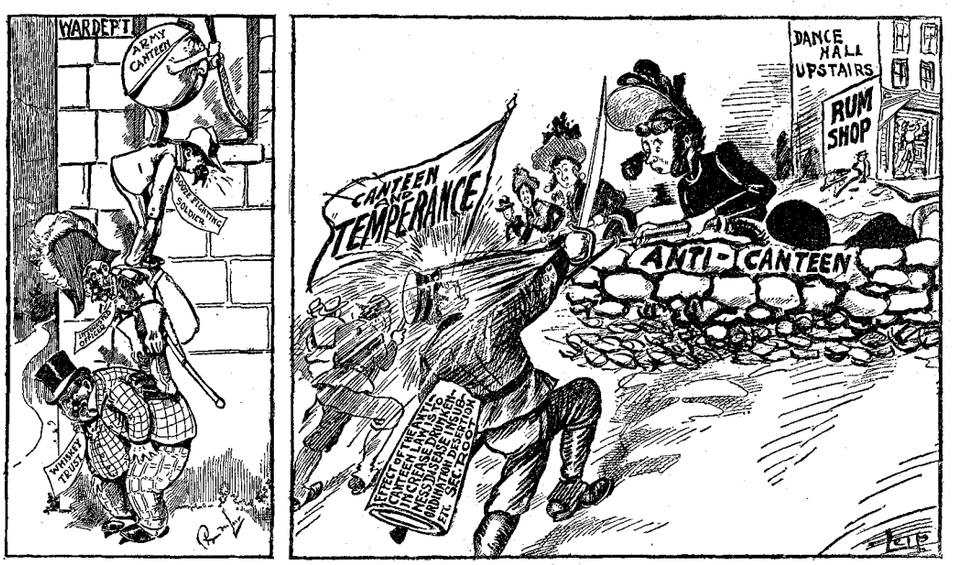
"What is popularly known as the anti-canteen law has been in force less than two years, immediately following many years' trial of the canteen law, and after a lamentably large number of soldiers had contracted the drink habit. According to the official report, just published, of the inspector-general of the division of the Philippines, in seventy-one companies investigated, between ten and thirty-five per cent. of the men drink to excess habitually.

"Congress, at its last session, appropriated $500,000 to build, equip, and maintain suitable buildings at army posts for the recreation and sociability of the men, and also increased the rations of the men five cents a day, thereby enabling them to secure delicacies and other comforts without depending therefor upon the profits of an army saloon. Because of the shortness of time, these appropriations have not as yet, except in a very limited degree, been utilized by the army.

"High army officials have most persistently pursued a course extremely unfriendly to this law, and pursued it in a way that has thrown the whole influence of the War Department, with the soldiers, on the side of distrust of and dissatisfaction with the law, and have persistently published misleading reports concerning the effects of the law.

"Notwithstanding the shortness of the time the law has been in force, the frightful demoralization of the army through the drink habit under the canteen law, the utter unfriendliness to the anti-canteen law of the War Department, and the non-test of the substitutions possible through the wise use of the above appropriations by Congress—nowithstanding all this, the official reports of courts-martial show that the trials per 1,000 men more than doubled during the last three years of the canteen liquor-selling law, increasing from 52 per 1,000 men in 1898 to 100 in 1900, and that since the year 1900 (in which is included six months of the canteen liquor-selling and eighteen months of non-selling), the courts-martial have decreased to 61—that is, have decreased 39 per 1,000 men. The reports of the surgeon-general of the army show a marked decrease of disease. The admissions to the hospitals, covering the whole army, in the calendar year 1900, the last year of the canteen, was 2,311 per 1,000 strength, while during the calendar year 1902 the admissions to the hospitals dropped to 1,791—a decrease in a single year of about 25 per cent. The same reports show a startling decrease in insanity of about 33 per cent.

"In view of all these considerations and facts, the Anti-Saloon League assembled in national convention in Washington declares itself unalterably opposed to the repeal of the anti-canteen law, and pledges to do its utmost, by petition, by agitation, and by ballot, to defeat any attempt to repeal this law until it has had a full and fair trial, and that it will not cease this agitation until the public and those who control the army understand that liquor-selling in the army canteen is a question of national morality, and not alone one of military regulation, and that the issue is whether a handful of officers can safely defy the expressed moral sentiment of the Union, or that they can successfully convince the people that a saloon is a temperance society when conducted in the army."



TRYING TO BREAK IN.
—*The New Voice, Chicago.*

A WEIRD ALLIANCE.
—*The Detroit News.*

CANTEEN IDEAS ILLUSTRATED.

It is somewhat surprising to turn from the above to the following editorial paragraphs in *The Army and Navy Journal* (New York):

"The results which have followed the abolition of the canteen are so alarming that no real friend of the army can ignore them. Not one post-commander has reported any improvement in consequence of the change, while many report that it has resulted in a shocking increase of drunkenness, vice, and mental and physical degeneracy among the members of the enlisted force. The adjutant-general of the army, in his annual report, states that since the canteen was abolished intoxication and offenses due to intoxication have greatly increased, and he declares it as his serious opinion that the increase of desertions and of trials for infractions of discipline is due in large degree 'to the abolition of the former privileges of the exchange.'

"The belief, which appears to be seriously entertained in some quarters, that the closing of the canteens has led to a decreased consumption of liquor by the soldiers is ludicrous to the last degree. It is flatly refuted by a few simple facts. Immediately adjacent to the various posts of the army there are nearly 1,500 saloons, most of them dens of vice, where the liquor dispensed is of the vilest quality. The number of these places was increased by nearly 300 during the last fiscal year. All of these saloons derive four-fifths of their revenues from the soldiers of the neighboring garrisons. The proprietors of these places are naturally opposed to the restoration of the canteen. They fatten on the soldiers' pay, and in return they dispense poisonous intoxicants which have done more to spread discontent and impair discipline in the army in the last two years than all other causes combined.

"The witnesses to the evils of the present system are too numerous to name, and their testimony, as the War Department points out, is too voluminous to publish. The nearly universal opinion appears to be that the abolition of the canteen was a mistake, and that its restoration would be a step in the direction of temperance and good order."

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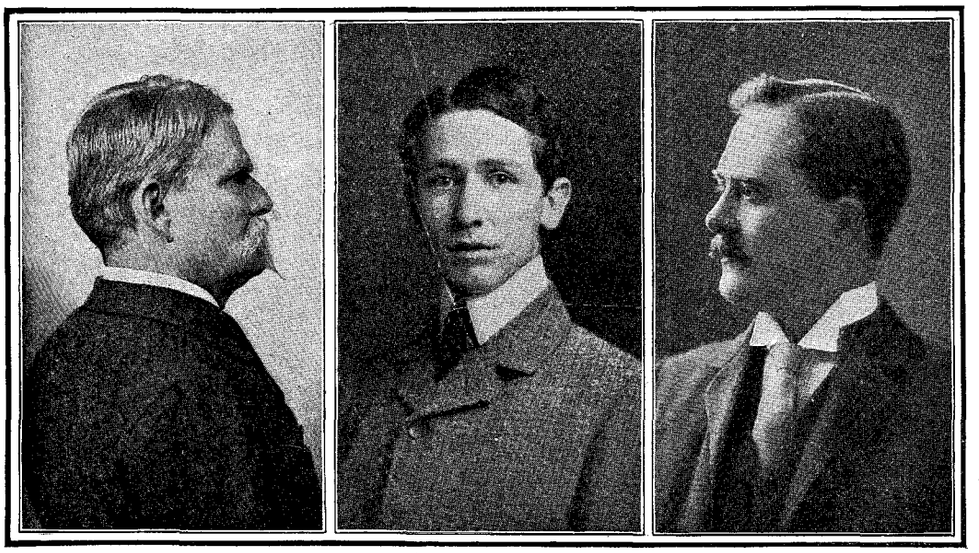

HENRY WATTERSON, *The Louisville Courier-Journal.* JULIAN HARRIS, *The Atlanta Constitution.* CLARK HOWELL, *The Atlanta Constitution.*

EDITORS OF REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS.

WHAT MAKES A TERRITORY FIT FOR STATEHOOD?

POLITICS, personal friendship, and corporation schemes appear to have about as much weight as the size of population in determining a Territory's fitness for Statehood, to judge from what is being written and said about the admission of Arizona and New Mexico into the Union. Everybody seems to admit that Oklahoma's population of half a million or more entitle her to admission, and the only question in this case is whether or not the Indian Territory, which has a population of some 400,000, mostly whites, should be joined to Oklahoma, the two to make one State. But Arizona has less than 125,000 and New Mexico less than 200,000. Both Territories have also a high percentage of foreign-born population and a high percentage of illiteracy, and both went Democratic at the last election. The Republican newspapers and Republican Senators appear to regard these facts as fatal objections, altho they have in recent years favored the admission of a number of States that presented much the same conditions, excepting only that they were Republican. Wyoming, for instance, has less than 100,000 population. The Democratic Senators and newspapers favor Statehood for the two Democratic Territories with great unanimity. The bill admitting Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico was passed by the House at the last session, and is now before the Senate.

Arizona and New Mexico have a redoubtable Republican champion in Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania. Some interesting light on the Senator's alleged motives and methods and on the manner in which Territories may be brought into the Union is shed by the following despatch from the Philadelphia *Ledger's* Washington correspondent, Col. J. M. Carson, who is considered the dean of the reportorial corps at the national capital. He says:

"The leading sensation to-day in connection with the Statehood contest was the publication of the fact that Senator M. S. Quay, of Pennsylvania, had written a letter last summer advising the Statehood leaders of Arizona to see to it that that Territory went Democratic in the recent congressional elections if they wanted the Senate to pass the Statehood bill. It was charged that the Pennsylvania Senator's motive in making such a strenuous fight for the admission of New Mexico and Arizona, as well as Oklahoma, was that his colleague, Senator Boies Penrose, has a brother in Arizona who is at the head of a big gold-mining property, and his old political lieutenant, ex-State Senator William H. Andrews, is managing in New Mexico a lumber company, and building 116 miles of railroad in connection with this investment.

"Senator Quay, when asked as to the existence of the letter in question, replied that there certainly was such a letter written by him, and that if any one wanted to print it he had no objections. He wrote it, he said, to one of the members of the Arizona Statehood committee, and he meant every word of it.

"In the letter he told this committeeman that the Territory must go Democratic, and they must pile up as large a vote as they possibly could if they wanted to hold the Democratic votes in the Senate. . . . . .

"In supporting the Statehood bill Senator Quay is standing by his friends. Viewed from two sides, it is a personal and commercial question. Fewer persons in Pennsylvania stand closer to Senator Quay than ex-State Senator Andrews. It is firmly believed by many that if New Mexico becomes a State, Andrews will be sent to the United States Senate. . . . . .

"There is a little disposition to make capital against the Statehood bill on account of the cry that Senator Quay is working for friends of his who are engaged in mining and railroading in the two mountain Territories. It is true, and the Pennsylvania Senator boldly admits that he is trying to help his friends, but he remarks that if every man who is for the bill because it would help somebody should vote against it on that account the spectacle would be one that should be 'saved up for the judgment day.'"

The Chicago *Tribune* (Rep.) objects to the admission of these Territories as part of "the scheme of a syndicate." To quote:

"It is said that a syndicate now engaged in building railroads

UNCLE SAM: "This is wuss'n judgin' punkins at a County Fair."
—*The Columbus Dispatch.*

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in Arizona and New Mexico is behind the determined effort now being made to get Statehood for the two Territories. It is said that in the event of success the syndicate will be assisted by the two new States to the amount of $15,000,000. While neither New Mexico nor Arizona would be a rich commonwealth, a market could easily be found for bonds issued or guaranteed by them. . . . Some Territories have been granted Statehood for political reasons which were not always good, but no State has been admitted yet in order that some railroad builders might get a subsidy, and it is to be hoped none will be."

On the Democratic side the Atlanta *Constitution* thinks the time has come when "it is doubtful if one plausible excuse can be urged for the existence of a Territory within the bounds of the United States." It continues:

"The average citizen of a State has small conception of the political subserviency implied by Territorialization. The people of the South can best understand, for their memory is bitter of a satrapy ruled by carpetbaggery. A Territory is one of the chief domestic appointment preserves of the President. In it the voice of the people is muffled to a whisper. The gubernatorial, judicial, and other chief offices are appointive, and the single delegate in Congress is little better than a lobbyist, having no vote. The Territorial legislature is also emasculated in that its enactments are subject to congressional approval, while the body politic is largely under bureaucratic supervision at Washington. A Territory, at best, is a quasi-dependency, the dumping-ground for much political rubbish, more or less mixed with political rascality. The system, with or without its abuses, is galling to self-respecting American citizenship, and being an anachronism, it should be recognized as obsolete by Congress.

"The question is one too pregnant with human rights and the laws of social evolution to be degraded by the sophistry and spoils of partizanship. The last Territory should be abolished, and on this high, sound ground. To fail to grant Statehood where so manifestly deserved and necessary would be to ignore all precedents of American statesmanship, and, worse, to stultify the basic principle of American liberty."

GEN. RUSSELL A. ALGER has again been sworn into public service. This is quite different from being sworn out.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

THE BOER CONQUEST OF BRITAIN.
The Pen is mightier than the Sword.
—*The Chicago News.*

SANTA CLAUS MUST PAY TO FOLLOW THE FLAG.
—*The Brooklyn Eagle.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

WHEN Santa Claus starts out my way
I hope it will be found
That he has put aside his sleigh
And brought a coal cart 'round.
—*The Washington Star.*

CHRISTMAS comes but once a year, tho many of the bills have to be sent several times.—*The Detroit News-Tribune.*

THE strenuosity of the present Administration seems to have struck in on the weather department.—*The Baltimore American.*

"WE won't touch the tariff," says Quay. It is the tariff payers that the Quayites prefer to touch.—*The Louisville Courier-Journal.*

WE'LL bet a hat President Roosevelt wouldn't try to rope a horse the way he is trying to rope the trusts.—*The Atlanta Journal.*

SANTA CLAUS can descend most of the chimneys this year without the usual danger of scorching his whiskers.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

ONE thing can be said in favor of *The Congressional Record.* It doesn't get out a holiday edition weeks before the holidays come.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

WE suppose the necessity for guarding our returning soldiers from the Philippines is due to the absence of a canteen on the transport.—*The Atlanta Constitution.*

SOME men die and departing leave behind them footprints on the sands of time, and others leave a Monroe Doctrine whose footprints, as it were, lead nobody knows where.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

A NEW YORK contemporary advises that sea-water be used for street-sprinkling purposes. Kansas City will be a little slow in adopting this suggestion. We will wait and see how it works in other places.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

"A NOTE on the Ox Warble in Mississippi" is the latest brochure issued by the Agricultural Department. Doesn't Secretary Wilson know that the Administration is supposed to be a trifle sore on Mississippi?—*The Washington Post.*

HOW to write a Christmas story. (Opinion formed after wading through the holiday magazines.) Take any old story of any old time and place. Write "It was Christmas day," just before the opening sentence; and at the end let the hero address dim space with the words: "This is, indeed, a merry Christmas for me!"—*The Chicago Tribune.*

FROM the American point of view, General Kitchener is a hopeless sort of a hero. Since his return to London he has not announced his candidacy for the nomination for King. Whatever kissing he may have indulged in has been carefully screened from the public and the late correspondents. He has not rescued any maidens that fell from the dock, or tried to acquire a crown of political martyrdom by pedling secrets of the War Office. He has not asked for a court of inquiry to prove that he did not refuse to coal from a collier while he has gathering in the burgher commandos. In fact, he is an uninteresting sort of a hero, and does not appeal to the American imagination.—*The Manila American.*

FATHER PENN: "Help! help! My leg has been pulled!"
DR. LORENZ: "I've heard about you; your case is incurable."
—*The Philadelphia North American.*

AFFLICTIONS OF GREAT MEN.

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LETTERS AND ART.

EUROPEAN VIEWS OF THE "LITERARY DELUGE."

DR. HENRY VAN DYKE, in a recent article on the "literary deluge" of to-day, estimated at between 4,000 and 5,000 the number of books published annually in this country. It is probably safe to say that at least one-third of this number is composed of novels. Georg Brandes, the Danish littérateur, who has been considering, in the Goteborg *Handelstidning*, the output of fiction in Europe, Asia, and Africa, makes some calculations which afford a basis for comparison with the American estimate. He writes:

"From 8,000 to 10,000 novels are published, on an average, every year the world over. The Japanese print over 450, India about 200, Egypt a dozen, and Syria about the name number. Italy and Spain each publishes more than 500 novels, France perhaps 600, with Scandinavia close behind. Russia reaches about 1,000. England and Germany print more than any other countries; 1,513 novels, a great many of them for children, were put on the market last year by the English, and nearly 2,000 by the German, publishers. These figures include reprints, which are often an important factor. England is continually issuing new editions of Sir Walter Scott, Thackeray, and Dickens; Germany reprints Hoffman, Hauff, and Grimm, and Scandinavia the works of Andersen and other writers. In addition to the cheap editions, *éditions de luxe*, artistically illustrated, are frequently published.

"There is not a library in the world large enough to contain all the books published during a period of ten years. Germany, the United States, Russia, India, have doubled, in twenty years, the number of publications issued. Japan has multiplied its output five times since 1880. So have England and France.

"Original novels are in the lead. There have not been many conspicuously successful translations during late years, tho Sienkiewicz's 'Quo Vadis' is one such. Translations are not profitable to publishers, as a rule, but they have a marked influence upon the literature of all countries. Zola and Tolstoy are still the two world-figures in fiction, and their books are translated in every country. Their fame must be attributed to journalistic exploitation of their personalities, as much as to their novels. The historical novel is just at present enjoying great popularity. In America novelists are encouraged to impart local color. In France novels dealing with facts and tendencies win most success, as, for example, Paul Bourget's 'L'Etape,' Paul Adam's 'L'Enfant d'Austerlitz,' Paul and Victor Margueritte's "Le Désastre," and Jules Claretie's 'Le Sang Française.' In Germany the theater attracts more attention than the novel. In Russia the short story is widely read."

La Revue (Paris) prints some interesting figures relating to the production and distribution of world-literature. "A new book," it remarks, "is born every second." We quote further:

"In North America alone there are probably 700,000,000 volumes, distributed as follows: In families, 420,000,000; among scientists, lawyers, writers, and inventors, 150,000,000; in the publishers' and booksellers' hands, 60,000,000; in public libraries, 50,000,000; in college libraries, 12,000,000; in the hands of students, 8,000,000.

"The number of books in the whole world may be computed as follows:

United States	700,000,000
Western Europe	1,800,000,000
Eastern Europe	460,000,000
Other countries	240,000,000
Total	3,200,000,000

"To this total are constantly added the new books published. Germany publishes 25,000 new works every year, France 13,000, Italy 10,000, England 7,000. At least 75,000 new books are published every year throughout the world, and the printing-press multiplies each of these volumes say, on an average, 1,000 times. So that the above grand total is increased by 75,000,000 annually."

La Revue makes the following estimate of the number of books contained in the largest libraries in the world:

Bibliothèque Nationale	3,000,000
British Museum	2,000,000
Imperial Library (St. Petersburg)	1,500,000
Berlin Library	1,000,000
Strasburg Library	700,000
Vienna Library	600,000
Munich Library	550,000
Oxford Library	550,000
Leipsic Library	500,000
Copenhagen Library	500,000
Stuttgart Library	500,000
Total	11,400,000

This table does not include the contents of the Congressional Library at Washington, nor of other American libraries, which would help substantially to increase the total.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FRANK NORRIS ON THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NOVELIST.

A PATHETIC interest attaches to two posthumous articles by Frank Norris, which appear in the current issues of *The Critic* and *The World's Work*. They represent some of the last work that he ever did; but they are so buoyant and virile, they seem so prophetic of work he was yet to do, that it is difficult indeed to imagine that the hand that wrote them is already still.

The novel, declares Mr. Norris, in his article in *The Critic*, is "the great expression of modern life." It may be superseded in the future by a higher form of art, but to-day it is "essential—because it expresses modern life better than architecture, better than painting, better than poetry, better than music. . . . It is that thing which, in the hand of man, makes him civilized and no longer savage, because it gives him a power of durable, permanent expression." We quote further:

"How necessary it becomes, then, for those who, by the simple art of writing, can invade the heart's heart of thousands, whose novels are received with such measureless earnestness—how necessary it becomes for those who wield such power to use it rightfully. Is it not expedient to act fairly? Is it not in heaven's name essential that the people hear, not a lie, but truth?

"If the novel were not one of the most important factors of modern life, if it were not the completest expression of our civilization, if its influence were not greater than all the pulpits, than all the newspapers between the oceans, it would not be so important that its message should be true.

"But the novelist to-day is the one who reaches the greatest audience. Right or wrong, the people turn to him the moment he speaks, and what he says they believe."

In view of the great responsibilities involved, continues Mr. Norris, how is it possible for novelists to look so frivolously upon their craft? Why do we not brand as "disreputable" the novelist who is "in literature for his own pocket every time"? Mr. Norris continues:

"The people have a right to the truth as they have a right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It is *not* right that they be exploited and deceived with false views of life, false characters, false sentiment, false morality, false history, false philosophy, false emotions, false heroism, false notions of self-sacrifice, false views of religion, of duty, of conduct, and of manners.

"The man who can address an audience of one hundred and fifty thousand people who—unenlightened—*believe what he says* has a heavy duty to perform, and tremendous responsibilities to shoulder; and he should address himself to his task not with the flippancy of the catch-penny juggler at the county fair, but with earnestness, with soberness, with a sense of his limitations, and

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with all the abiding sincerity that by the favor and mercy of the gods may be his."

In his article in *The World's Work*, Mr. Norris considers the "neglected epic" in American life—the story of the conquest of the West. Here again are involved the "responsibilities" of writers who have failed to record the heroism of their own people. We quote:

"The young Greeks sat on marble terraces overlooking the Ægean Sea and listened to the thunderous roll of Homer's hexameters. In the feudal castles the minstrel sang to the young boys, of Roland. The farm folk of Iceland to this very day treasure up and read to their little ones hand-written copies of the Gretla Saga chronicling the deeds and death of Grettir the Strong. But the youth of the United States learn of their epic by paying a dollar to see the 'Wild West Show.'

"The plain truth of the matter is that we have neglected our epic—the black shame of it be on us—and no contemporaneous poet or chronicler thought it worth his while to sing the song or tell the tale of the West, because literature in the day when the West was being won was a cult indulged in by certain well-bred gentlemen in New England who looked eastward to the Old World, to the legends of England and Norway and Germany and Italy for their inspiration, and left the great, strong, honest, fearless, resolute deeds of their own countrymen to be defamed and defaced by the nameless hacks of the 'yellow-back' libraries. . . . . .

"The great figure of our neglected epic, the Hector of our ignored Iliad, is not, as the dime novels would have us believe, a lawbreaker, but a lawmaker; a fighter, it is true, as is always the case with epic figures, but a fighter for peace, a calm, grave, strong man who hated the lawbreaker as the hound hates the wolf. . . . . .

"He died in defense of an ideal, an epic hero, a legendary figure, formidable, sad. He died facing down injustice, dishonesty, and crime; died 'in his boots'; and the same world that has glorified Achilles and forgotten Travis finds none so poor to do him reverence. No literature has sprung up around him—this great character native to America. He is of all the world-types the one distinctive to us—peculiar, particular, and unique. He is dead, and even his work is misinterpreted and misunderstood. His very memory will soon be gone, and the American epic, which on the shelves of posterity should have stood shoulder to shoulder with the 'Hemskringla' and the 'Tales of the Nibelungen' and the 'Song of Roland,' will never be written."

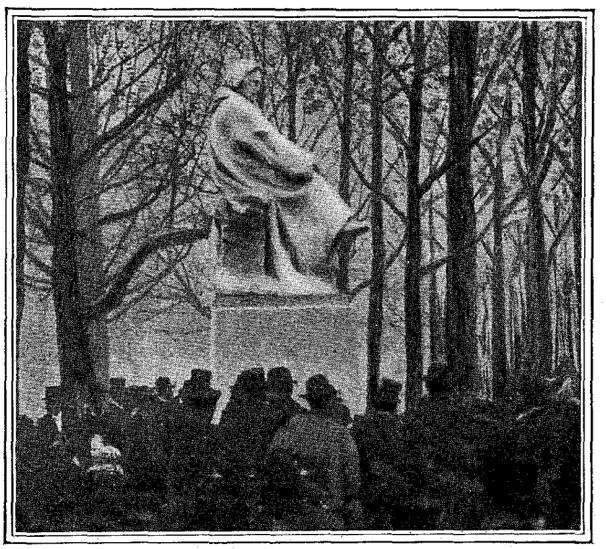
THE NEW STATUE OF BALZAC.

FOR several years a movement has been on foot in Paris to erect a monument to Balzac, but the difficulties attending the efforts made have been of so serious a nature as more than once to imperil the whole undertaking. Says *L'Illustration* (Paris):

"It would require a volume to give a full account of the vicissitudes of the Balzac statue. The initiative, it will be recalled, was taken by the 'Société des Gens de Lettres,' which opened a subscription for the purpose of erecting a memorial to the author of 'La Comédie Humaine,' and entrusted the execution of the design to the sculptor Chapu. He died before his work was at all advanced, and the order was transferred to M. Auguste Rodin. The disputes between M. Rodin and the Society became a matter of public notoriety. Feeling ran so high that there was a split in the Society, and M. Jean Aicard, its president, was very indignant because M. Rodin was not permitted to work in peace on his *chef d'œuvre*.

"When M. Rodin finally completed the statue, it was exhibited in the Salon and made a great stir there, but was not acceptable to the Society. The order was next turned over to M. Falguière, who exhibited his statue in 1899 at the annual exposition of French artists. He was not altogether satisfied with his production and resumed work upon it. Before he could finish his design, death claimed him. With the consent of Madame Falguière the completion of the statue was entrusted to one of her husband's collaborators, the sculptor Marqueste.

"Balzac has at last reached the end of his tribulations. Here he is in white marble, seated in a familiar attitude with legs crossed, draped in his ample gown, under the trees of the Avenue de Friedland. Close by is the hotel in which he died."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



UNVEILING OF THE BALZAC STATUE IN PARIS.

IS DRAMATIC CRITICISM ILLEGAL?

AS the result of some hostile dramatic criticism in the Parisian press, certain theatrical managers in Paris recently issued a statement in which they declared that they considered dramatic criticism an impertinence and a nuisance they would gladly abolish. The theater, they said, is simply a place where amusement is sold to the public, and the critic had no right to condemn their "wares" and injure their business by telling people through newspapers and periodicals that the entertainments offered were not worth seeing or hearing.

As the expression of a mere sentiment, this statement had no special weight or importance. The principle at stake, however, has since been passed upon by an English court and jury at Plymouth. Says the Chicago *Evening Post*:

"A case was recently tried at that place in which a theatrical manager sought damages from a newspaper for publishing a severe and caustic criticism of a play that had enjoyed 'a remarkable run on the road.' There was absolutely no evidence of malice against the defendant or the critic. The latter had expressed his honest opinion, as his duty to the readers of the paper employing him required him to do, and (tho from the legal standpoint this is immaterial) his opinion had been solicited in the usual way.

"It is true that he had pronounced the piece to be without merit—'nonsense of a not very humorous character,' full of 'sorry stuff' and lacking in substance, and 'common, not to say vulgar,' in its musical aspect—for it happened to be a 'musical comedy.' But these expressions did not transcend legitimate criticism. They were not libelous, and they represented the view of a supposed expert.

"The jury, under certain rulings of the court, found for the manager and awarded him the damages he claimed to have sustained. There was in fact no other proof of loss than that the receipts for a six nights' run were but fifty per cent. of those of a previous run of the same length in the same city. How could it possibly be shown that this reduction was due to the unfavorable notice? A dozen other causes might account for it.

"But this aside, the principle of the verdict if generally applied would destroy all literary dramatic and musical criticism or render it dishonest, perfunctory, valueless, and farcical. Evidently the Plymouth court and jury shared the Parisian managers'

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'ultra-modern' view of the stage. Commercialism has little use for criticism; it 'gives the public what it wants' and abides by supply and demand. Artistic considerations have nothing to do with these transactions. And Dogberry juries quite naturally sympathize with this spirit. What is art to them?"

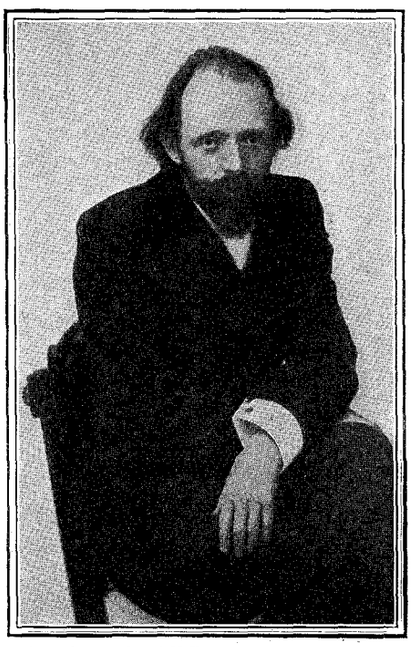
The New York *Dramatic Mirror* adds:

"A sequel to this case is noted in the matter of a cablegram in the New York *Sun*, to the effect that several newspapers that criticized unfavorably the first production of the musical comedy, 'The Girl from Kay's,' a week ago, 'have been surprised to receive libel suit summonses from Owen Hall, one of the authors of the piece.' It is added that the editors of the papers so served were at first disposed to regard the matter as a joke, but it seems that the plaintiff is serious in his intention to take advantage of the recent case described in the foregoing. There can be little doubt that the English libel law is a bad law in its present form. Nothing can make a bad law so offensive to the public as proceedings in its name that show its defects. Thus there promises to be such an exercise of the English libel law as will engage the amendatory attention of Parliament.

"As to a libel law in its relation to amusements, it may be said that no such law ever should become operative against a writer who without malice expresses a competent opinion. Of course it is impossible for any law to reach the crass ignorance and monumental incompetency that so often, by the grace of journalistic management, sit in the chair of criticism."

HALL CAINE ON THE FREE LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

MR. HALL CAINE, who left our shores a few days ago to return to his home on the Isle of Man, has interested himself deeply during past years in the free library movement. By his own personal efforts, as well as by his influence as a Manx legislator, he was instrumental in inducing Andrew Carnegie to establish libraries throughout the Isle of Man. In Great Britain, as in this country, the opportunities for a wider culture afforded by the free library have been generally welcomed; but there is a disposition in some quarters to discount the influence of free libraries, on the ground that the intellectual power of any community is not increased by desultory reading confined mostly to fiction, and that the authors, as individuals, restrict their own earning capacity if, indorsing the free library, they encourage the public to borrow books, instead of to buy them. Mr. Caine sets himself to answer such objections in an article in *The Independent* (November 6). He is not ready to take the view that the public library and the trade of bookselling are in any serious degree antagonistic, but avers, on the contrary, that in great centers of population the public library and the bookseller's shop "keep pace together." He continues:



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HALL CAINE.

He has been in this country supervising the dramatic presentation of his novel "The Eternal City."

"Nowhere is the library movement more active than at Edinburgh and Glasgow, at Manchester and at Liverpool, and nowhere, in the provinces at all events, does the bookselling trade thrive so well. The same is true of America. When I was here last I noticed that the booksellers' shops were most numerous and the trade in books most flourishing, even in a city like Boston, where they have built and are supporting out of the revenue a public library such as can hardly be found elsewhere in the world. So, perhaps, the case of books is the exception to the rule expressed in the Shakespearian maxim that 'Loan often loses both itself and friend.' In fact the public library is so strong a help to the sale of books that if any philanthropic millionaire wished to stimulate the sale of books in a district now showing a dead apathy to literature, he could hardly do better than establish a public library."

There never was a time, Mr. Caine goes on to say, when books played so large a part in the life of England as now. Never before, he declares, have so many books been sold. As illustrating the changing temper of popular feeling in regard to matters literary, Mr. Caine instances the public interest evoked by Tennyson's death as compared with that shown in Wordsworth's death forty-two years before. Wordsworth's death was deemed so unimportant a matter that for six days it was not even reported in the London press; but upon the death-bed of Tennyson, Wordsworth's successor in the laureateship, were turned the eyes of the whole civilized world. Mr. Caine writes further:

"I can have no fear that the great movement for the establishment of free libraries throughout the country will ever fail for want of intellectual sustenance; and, altho it may be true that novels are now the chief reading of the masses of the people, I fully believe that the time is near when no one will venture to make a reproach of that. I think I foresee the type of fiction in the near future that will be built upon the foundation of all the broad pioneering that is being done by the excellent writers of our own day—not so much a national novel as a novel embodying the romance of this romantic century.

"The passions of course will not be different, and the stories will be fundamentally the same. But both will be working in the atmosphere of the marvelous, almost miraculous, changes which the face of the civilized world has undergone in less than fifty years. Stories of the chivalry of old days will never lose their charm, but the stories of the future will, I think, be directly occupied with the poetry, the pathos, the humor and, it may be, with the tragedy that have come out of the mighty and mysterious forces of nature revealed to us within our day. In short, I make bold to predict that the novel of the twentieth century will tell the story of the nineteenth. If the readers of the free libraries fifty years hence are mainly occupied with that study, they will be properly and worthily engaged."

The free library is a great treasure-house with this peculiarity: That all may take, and yet none will find any less. It is the "comfort-house" of the poor man or woman, who "for a little while are able to forget their hard necessities and to remember their other troubles no more." Mr. Caine concludes:

"What if they are all, or nearly all, reading novels? The novelists are the magicians wafting them, as on wings, out of their anxieties and sorrows. Some of them are away with Walter Scott among the hills of Scotland; and some of them are with Thackeray on the field of Waterloo, and some of them are with Dickens, tramping the country lanes by the side of the grandfather and Little Nell. Some of them are rolling with laughter and some are choking with sobs; but all of them are carried out of themselves and out of their pitiful circumstances. And it is only their poor, pinched bodies that sit there, in their mean and meager garments.

"Isn't this a wonderful thing to do? You may be rich, but you can not do it with money; you may stand in high places, but you can not do it with power. You have done it with books, and books are the greatest force now existing in the world. Judged by its effect on man and on time, a great book is a far greater event than a great battle; and there is no book so poor but it has taken generations of men to write it. A race has

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never been great without having great books. Sometimes the books have remained when the race has disappeared. The highest inheritance of our own race, the Anglo-Saxon race, is the inheritance of a great and glorious literature. And this is the birthright of every apprenticed boy who speaks and reads his mother's tongue."

EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF GREEK.

THE place of Greek in modern education has come up for public discussion as the result of a vote taken in Congregation at the University of Oxford recently. A resolution was submitted which, if adopted, would have permitted a student to enter the university without any knowledge of Greek, and its defeat by only a small majority evokes considerable surprise. "It is a Pyrrhic victory that has been won for Greek at Oxford," comments the New York *Sun*, "a presage of its downfall before long in its strongest fortress." The New York *Commercial Advertiser* says:

"This fact seems extraordinary to Americans who have formed a conception of Oxford from what they have read of it in the books of fifty years ago—in English books such as those of Thomas Hughes, or in American books such as that of Charles Astor Bristed. Getting their views of Oxford and of England generally from these sources, and having a profound belief in English conservatism, it is not remarkable that Oxford's present attitude toward Greek should seem astonishing. Of course, in this country one looks for all sorts of innovations, but not in England. Yet, in point of fact, the Americans are, in reality, much more conservative than the English. They are not conservative in matters of form, but in fundamental principles they are really loath to change.

"If, for instance, one looks at the whole question of classical study, the truth of this remark will find a ready illustration. Americans have practically eliminated Greek from the list of studies required of undergraduates. They have also minimized the actual requirements in Latin. Yet, none the less, statistics show that there is quite as much interest taken by Americans in classical study as there used to be, and that classical scholarship in this country has increased not only in prestige but in originality and in scientific value. To-day Americans come next to Germans in the thoroughness of their classical work, so that, for example, the standard Latin lexicon in use at the great English universities is the work of two Americans, while the standard Greek lexicon also bears the name of an American scholar upon its title-page. Moreover, statistics show that in the United States the study of Latin in the secondary schools is advancing faster than any other, with the possible exception of English, while the proportion of students who are acquiring Greek has doubled within eight years. In England, on the other hand, interest in the classics is decidedly on the wane; and the action of Oxford, which has just been described, represents the general feeling of almost the majority of educated men."

The London *Spectator* voices regret that of the two dead languages, Latin and Greek, the latter should be the one first in danger of being discarded. It declares:

"Greek is the more valuable language of the two. It is the harder; the mental gymnastics of it ought to produce the better training. It is the more exact; the precision, for instance, of the small differences in the tenses of the Greek verb is clearer and subtler than the precision of the Latin. The boy, therefore, who is merely to be expected to get nothing better than mental gymnastic exercises from dead languages ought to be exercised in Greek rather than Latin. Again, to come to the classical educator's second plea, that only by knowledge of the original language of the great thinkers of the past a man can properly value, and so become cultured in, classical thought, what is the comparison to be drawn between the fountains at which the classically educated boy can drink? If there is to be a choice between the literature of two languages, to one of which belong Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Lucretius, Cicero, and Cæsar, and to the other Homer, Æschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Thucydides, Herodotus, Aristotle, and Plato, there is not much difficulty in deciding which literature the world could better afford to lose. In a word, by sacrificing Greek before Latin, the classical educator in reality gives in to the utilitarian. The utilitarian objects to Greek because he can see no immediate and direct result from learning it; he objects a little less strongly to Latin because he can see that it helps to the learning of modern languages like French or Spanish or Italian. But the case for the retention of Greek, considered from the standpoint of the classical educator claiming to take long views, clearly remains the stronger."

Prof. Goldwin Smith, of Toronto, who contributes a letter on this subject to the New York *Sun*, takes the position that "compulsory Greek will go, at Oxford, as elsewhere," but he has no fears that interest will decline in "the tongue of Hellas, the unsurpassed and unsurpassable manifestation and school of beauty." Prof. J. P. Postgate, one of the foremost classical scholars of England, writes in *The Fortnightly Review* (November):

"At a time when we appear to be on the eve of extensive reconstruction in the higher educational system of the country, the first duty of those who believe that a due recognition of the claims of Greek and Latin is vital to our intellectual welfare is to know what they want. It is clear that the classics will not be allowed the lion's share which has been theirs in the past, and the question is, How much must we struggle to retain? For my own part, I think it is necessary that the study of Latin should be kept as an integral part of all higher education, and that of Greek as an integral part of the higher literary training."

The real causes of the present apparent deficiencies in our educational training, continues Professor Postgate, may be traced to the educator's attempts to do "too much," and his inability to "go to work in the right way." He advises a strict limitation of Latin and Greek courses with a view to including only the absolutely essential; and a thorough overhauling of grammars, lexicons, and methods of teaching. "If the 'dead' languages and literatures are not to retire into the background," he says, "they must be taught as if they were alive." He concludes:

"The adoption of improved methods would do more than anything else to do away with the reproach that the classics are 'hackneyed.' In itself the charge is a paradox. How any one coming fresh to the literatures of races and civilizations so far removed at numberless points from our own can find them 'hackneyed' is indeed a mystery. And the calumny appears to be sufficiently refuted by the enthusiasm which classical, and especially Greek, literature awakens in the classes of university extensions. No 'miracle,' but an intelligent development of this natural interest is required to restore to their study the 'freshness' of which it is said, not without a certain justice, that it now stands in need."

NOTES.

MR. W. J. HENDERSON, for many years musical critic of the New York *Times*, has accepted the musical editorship of the New York *Sun*.

A FRENCH translation of President Roosevelt's "Strenuous Life," bearing the title "La Vie Intense," has attracted much interest in Paris. The translation is by Princesse Ferdinand de Lucinge-Faucigny and M. Jean Izoulet, who declare that their work has the authorization of Mr. Roosevelt.

THE twenty pictures that comprised the Napoleonic series in the Verestchagin collection of paintings recently exhibited throughout the country have been bought by the Russian Czar for $100,000 and will be preserved in the National Museum at St. Petersburg. The remainder of the collection is in the hands of American buyers.

THE two initial numbers of *The Reader* (New York) augur well for the future of this new literary magazine. The general lines of this publication are those of *The Bookman* and *The Critic*, with a large infusion of radical and unconventional feeling. Bliss Carman and Charles G. D. Roberts are among the contributors to the first issue.

MARK TWAIN'S sixty-seventh birthday was celebrated at the Metropolitan Club, New York, on November 28, by a dinner given in his honor by Col. George Harvey of Harper & Brothers. Mr. W. D. Howells read a sonnet composed for the occasion, and speeches were made by Chauncey M. Depew, Dr. Henry Van Dyke, Hamilton W. Mabie, Thomas B. Reed, Wayne MacVeagh, and by Mr. Clemens himself.

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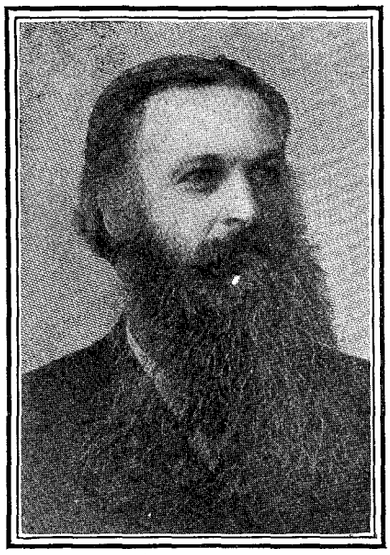
SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DR. LORENZ'S VISIT.

THAT the visit of Dr. Adolf Lorenz, the eminent Viennese surgeon, to this country should excite such widespread interest is an event of much moment for science, probably of greater moment than the fact of the visit itself. Of course the interest was stimulated at the outset by the fact that Professor Lorenz came in order to perform the so-called "bloodless operation," devised by himself, to correct the deformity of the child of one of our millionaires. It is also, as *The Independent* remarks editorially, "partly due to the fact that the presence of the distinguished foreign surgical visitor has been taken advantage of to secure the extension of the benefits of his operation to some of the poorer classes in our large cities who happen to be suffering from the same deformity"—congenital dislocation of the hip. There is no doubt, however, the writer thinks, that the attention awakened can be attributed also to the fact that deformity appeals to universal sympathy, and that during the last generation or two a larger humanitarian spirit has developed. The writer goes on to say:



DR. ADOLF LORENZ.

He is the originator of the so-called "bloodless operation" for congenital dislocation of the hip.

"Professor Lorenz does not come to teach our American orthopedic surgeons—our specialists in the treatment of deformed children—something they did not know before. Lorenz's operation has been practised in this country for almost, if not quite, a decade of years; and some of the best results attained by the use of the method invented by the Vienna professor have been reported from America. His treatment is in line with that return to the principle of taking advantage of nature's own auxiliary efforts and her manifold compensating factors for the relief of disease and deformity that characterizes much of recent progress in medicine and surgery on both sides of the Atlantic.

"In certain children nature has failed to provide proper sockets for the bones of the thigh to work in—that is, it has failed to make a complete hip-joint. These patients are spoken of as suffering from congenital dislocation of the hip. Sometimes the condition is not noticed until the child begins to make spontaneous movements. As they grow older they prove to be pitiably deformed and learn to walk only with great difficulty, their gait being slow and very awkward. Professor Lorenz sets the heads of their thigh bones in their proper places and then fixes them firmly in position. The pressure of the head of the femur gradually makes for the bone an acetabulum—that is, a socket in the bone of the pelvis—in which it comes to move quite normally. Further dislocation does not occur, and the bones remaining in place perfect the original work of the surgeon by the exercise of the pressure and counterpressure that eventually gives a very practical hip-joint. The results secured by this manipulation—for it is this rather than an operation that is the secret of Professor Lorenz's successes—are excellent. Patients successfully treated go through life not as almost helpless, always pitiable cripples, but as individuals whose powers of locomotion may be somewhat impaired, tho not sufficiently to hamper their application to some serious occupation."

Says a writer in *The Outlook*, speaking of the same operation:

"In 1895 Professor Lorenz demonstrated his bloodless reduction to the Medical Congress at Berlin. Since 1900 the bloodless operation has been accepted by European surgeons almost to a man. Professor Hoffa still uses the open method on older patients, or when difficulty is experienced in reduction by the bloodless method.

"Professor Lorenz says, with something of reserve—more in his voice than his words—that he does not expect ever to find it necessary or advisable to perform the open operation.

"He tells me that for several years he accepted no fees for his bloodless operations, telling his patients that it was yet an experiment. If he succeeded in curing them, he expected them to pay well; but should it prove a failure, he wanted nothing. He has demonstrated his operation in . . . nearly every large city of Europe except in England.

"Professor Lorenz might be said to be a specialist in this one operation, having operated more than one thousand times, and derived more recompense for his labor than from all his other practise.

"This is not his only bloodless operation. He has originated operations to straighten club-feet, and limbs contracted by paralysis and inflammation, besides inventing several instruments very useful to the orthopedic surgeon.

"Professor Lorenz is a man of charming personality, a fluent and animated speaker in several languages, temperate in habit, nervous in disposition, yet cool, clear, and resourceful in emergency.

"This typical Viking, six feet two inches tall, erect, lean, and muscular, with his long, blond beard and well-kept hair touched with gray, is a striking figure in any assembly. The face, not a regular German type, is still that of a young and vigorous man, most expressive when, at his quiet Viennese home, he conducts you over his comfortable grounds, talking of science, art, and the various phases of his medical career. The strong, sensitive mouth and shapely nose bespeak a man of refined tastes and thoughts. His large, expressive gray eyes reveal every mood, yet are so kind that I have never seen a child who could resist his overtures of friendship."

THE ORIGIN OF OUR THERMOMETER SCALE.

WHY should the freezing-point be marked 32° and the boiling-point 212° on the Fahrenheit thermometer scale? Most students know that its inventor divided the space between these points into 180° instead of the simpler 100° used in the Centigrade system; but few understand how this number came to be chosen. A writer in *The American Inventor* (November) thus explains the matter:

"The thermometer was really invented by Sir Isaac Newton. He started his scale with the heat of the human body and used as his instrument a glass tube filled with linseed oil. The lowest figure on the scale was the freezing-point and the highest point boiling water. The starting-point of this scale, as mentioned, was the heat of the human body, which he called by the round number 12, as the duodecimal system was then in common use. He divided the space between the freezing-point and the temperature of the body into 12 points, and stated that the boiling-point of water would be about 30, as the temperature must be nearly three times that of the human body.

"When Fahrenheit took up the subject, a few years later, he used the Newton instrument, but, finding the scale not fine enough, divided each degree into two parts, and so made the measure between the freezing- and boiling-points 24 parts instead of 12. Fahrenheit then discovered he could obtain a lower degree of cold than freezing, and, taking a mixture of ice and salt for a starting-point, he counted 24 points up to body heat. By this measurement he obtained 8 for the freezing-point and 53 for the boiling-point. His scale now read: Zero; Freezing, 8; Body Heat, 24; and Boiling Water, 53. It will be noticed this scale is identically that of Newton's, only starting lower and having the numbers doubled.

"It was with this scale which Fahrenheit worked for a long time, but finally finding the temperature divisions still too large, he divided each degree into four parts. Multiplying the

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numbers just given by four, the thermometer scale now in use results.

"The chance choice of Newton of the figure 12 to represent the body heat determined the present thermometer scale, even as the yard, feet, and inches measure originally came from measures of parts of the human body, and as the width of railroad carriage was determined by the track, which, in turn, was determined by the width between the cartwheels necessary to bear a load which could comfortably be drawn by a mule!"

REPULSIVE FORCES IN NATURE.

THE forces of attraction in nature, notably that of gravitation, are so great and obvious that those acting in the opposite sense—forces of repulsion—are apt to be overlooked, tho in electricity and magnetism they are known to every one who is familiar with the simplest laboratory experiments. Recently, as has been noted in these columns, the conclusion drawn theoretically many years ago, that light exerts a pressure or repulsive force on bodies on which it strikes, has been confirmed experimentally, and this has made possible a simple explanation of several phenomena that had long puzzled astronomers, such as comets' tails, the solar corona, the zodiacal light, and the aurora borealis. Says Prof. T. J. J. See, in an article on the subject in *Popular Astronomy* (December):

"By his mathematical investigations Maxwell* showed that the propagation of a beam of light through the ether caused a slight pressure to be exerted on an exposed surface in the direction of the rays of light. This pressure is so small that it has required the most delicate of all modern experiments to detect it. So slight a pressure emanating from the center of the sun could exert no sensible influence as against gravity, when the bodies are large; but in case of bodies of smaller and smaller size, the ratio between the mass of the body and its exposed surface decreases rapidly when minute dimensions are approached, so that for small spherical globules of the same density as water of $\frac{1}{1000}$ millimeter diameter, the light pressure is found to be equal to that of gravitation. This singular effect is analogous to the more familiar case of fine dust wafted by terrestrial winds. . . . The force of the wind has little effect on large grains of sand, but is extremely powerful on those which approach the size of fine powder. So it is with the repulsion of particles due to the light waves emanating from the center of the sun; this pressure has little effect on bodies as large as small grains of sand, but repels powerfully much finer particles, such as those little microscopic pieces of carbon which float in flames of low combustion. . . . . .

"It is found by computation that under the repulsion of the sun's light a particle $\frac{1}{1000}$ the diameter of an ordinary grain of sand would just float in space at whatever distance it might be placed relative to the sun. If below this dimension it would be repelled from the sun, because the pressure of the light exceeds the attraction of gravitation. If larger than the dimensions above indicated, the force of gravity would predominate, and the body would slowly fall to the sun, the velocity depending of course on the actual size of the body and its density. . . . If, however, the diameter of these spherules decrease steadily, it is a curious fact recently brought to light by the profound researches of Prof. Karl Schwartzschild of Göttingen, that after a diameter of $\frac{1}{14000}$ millimeter has been attained, the attraction of gravitation again exceeds the pressure due to the sun's light. This arises from the fact that spherules with diameters smaller than the wave-length of light are not much affected by the pressure which light waves exert. In this way very small spherules of matter would not be greatly repelled by the sun. Thus matter in the molecular stage would not be strongly repelled by light, because the diameters of the molecules are much too small—smaller than $\frac{1}{3300000}$ millimeter. The spherules which could be repelled by the sun are thus at least 23 diameters of the largest molecules, and can not be gaseous matter in an elemental stage."

This theory, it will thus be seen, accounts for the presence in space of a large volume of very finely divided matter, some of which is relatively motionless, while some slowly approaches luminous gravitating centers like our sun and the rest slowly recedes from such centers. This fine matter it is that we see in comets' tails, the sun's corona, the aurora and similar phenomena. Professor See even suggests that at least some types of nebulæ may consist of matter thrown off in this way from a central nucleus, instead of being in process of condensation upon such a nucleus. Says the author:

"It is not claimed that the views here set forth are fully established by the results of scientific research; they are simply suggestions, which may be of use in the future progress of science, and must when tested stand or fall on their merits. But that repulsive forces play a larger part in the universe than has been generally supposed the writer is daily more and more convinced. The important point to bear in mind in this connection is that light is shown to exert a repulsive force, and this is known to be effective in repelling globules of matter of a certain size. On another theory electrons are also emitted by all hot bodies like the sun and stars, and these minute corpuscles traveling with velocities approaching that of light, are at once capable of electrifying neutral atoms or molecules, so that they are repelled by very powerful electric forces. These causes are adequate to account for all the repulsion of matter observed in the solar system and among the fixed stars.

"In conclusion we should remember that gravitation condenses the matter forming the stars from a state of infinite diffusion and chaos; this condensation produces heat and light and the radiation of electrons, and the waves of light and electric forces emanating from such centers repel all matter of a certain fineness or of a certain chemical constitution so powerfully as to diffuse it again to the bounds of the universe. There is thus in nature a partial counteraction of the condensing and aggregating tendency of universal gravitation. *Some of the matter is again spread over the universe by the indirect effects of the same agency which caused the condensation.* How far this process of redistribution goes, and what proportion of all the matter now falling into the stars for the maintenance of their radiation is thus effected, can not at present be determined. But probably only a small fraction of all the matter drawn in is ever expelled, so that condensation continues, with slightly retarded rate.

"It is interesting to notice, however, that if this expulsion of matter should by any possibility of future discovery prove to be equal to that drawn in by the attractive force of gravitation, it would be conceivable for the universe in its present state to last forever, a thing heretofore considered impossible. This perpetuity of the universe, to be sure, does not at present seem very probable, but we know as yet too little to say that it is wholly impossible. There may be some laws of nature of a far-reaching character heretofore unknown and wholly unsuspected yet to be discovered. And these may show that repulsive forces in nature called into play by gravitation itself aid in redistributing what gravitation has accumulated by its condensing power. At any rate in the future study of the heavens repulsive forces must be considered before forming any final estimate of the destiny of the physical universe."

Books that are Read by Sound.—A new invention by which the contents of a book are made evident to a blind person through the sense of hearing instead of through that of touch is described by M. V. de Turine in the *Eclair Electrique* (Paris). According to a translation made for *The Scientific American Supplement*, these so-called "photophonic" books are made on the following principle:

"A sheet of transparent paper contains, printed upon a black background, a number of small white squares, separated from each other by intervals one, two, or more lengths of a square in size. These squares, together with the intervals, represent the letters of the alphabet, exactly as do the dots and dashes of Morse. In order to enable the blind to read these letters, the printed sheet is placed in a frame between two thin plates of glass fully exposed to the light, and an opaque piece of card-

*Prof. James Clerk Maxwell, the English physicist (1831-1879).

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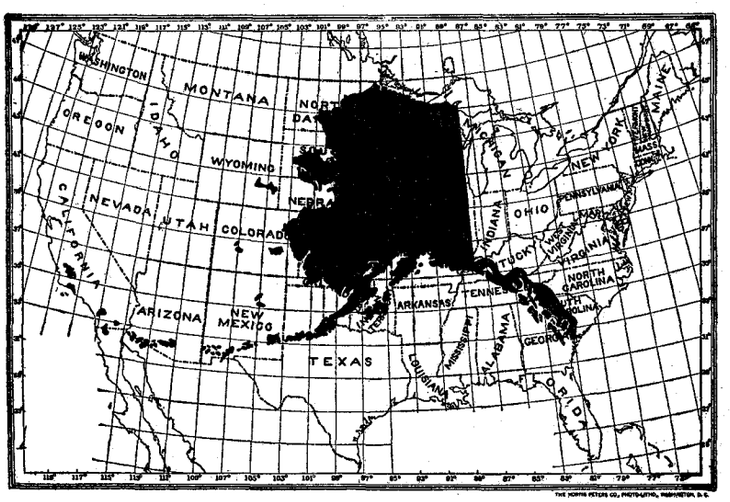
board, or some other material, with a square-shaped opening in the center, is moved by the reader along the printed lines from left to right. Whenever the opening passes over one of the white transparent squares, the rays of light illuminating the printed sheet pass through this opening, and, by means of a photophonic apparatus, are changed into sound. In this way the blind reader receives the letters in the form of sounds separated by longer or shorter intervals of silence, and his ear fulfils the functions of the eye."

The translation, as it were, of the printed Morse characters into sound may, we are told, be accomplished in a variety of ways, many of which are based on the property possessed by the substance selenium of having its resistance to an electric current decreased by light.

THE SIZE OF ALASKA.

OWING chiefly to the distance of Alaska from the United States and the difficulty of travel in its interior, its size is generally underestimated. Direct comparison of maps drawn to scale, as in the accompanying chart, is somewhat surprising. Says George B. Hollister, of the United States Geological Survey,



THE SIZE OF ALASKA AS COMPARED WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Courtesy of *The Popular Science Monthly*.

who writes on this subject in *The Popular Science Monthly* (December):

"When it is said that Alaska has one-fifth the area of the whole United States, one begins to have a more intelligent conception of its size, for in a general way the average American readily forms a fairly accurate mental picture of the broad size relations of his country. But so great is the extent of the United States and so difficult is it to judge accurately of the relations of geographical measurements, that even this is not a satisfactory comparison. For this reason our practical knowledge would not be much benefited were it stated that the area of Alaska is equal to that of three and one-quarter Californias, or ten Iowas, or one hundred and twenty-seven and one-half Connecticuts. But if it were possible to take the whole territory of Alaska and its adjoining islands and place them upon the portion of North America occupied by the United States, it would be a simple thing to show exactly what the relations of these great possessions to our own country are. Just this, in effect, has been done, as the accompanying illustration shows. The chart was prepared by Mr. Alfred H. Brooks, geologist of the United States Geological Survey, in charge of the government work of exploration and geological investigation of the Territory, who has drawn upon the map of the United States an outline of Alaska. The scale used in both instances is the same, and the result is most interesting."

In the map Point Barrow falls on the Canadian border, while Mount St. Elias is on the Ohio River. The strip on which Sitka and Juneau lie extends to the Atlantic coast at Georgia, while the Nome district is in South Dakota and the Aleutian group reaches to the Pacific at Los Angeles.

WHEN ALCOHOL DOES GOOD.

AN attempt is made in a recent number of *The Hospital* to distinguish between the cases in which alcohol may be used legitimately as a medicine and those in which it does only harm. In the first place, the writer tells us, the idea that a stimulant gives strength must no longer be entertained; it certainly does not contribute muscular force or nervous energy. The action of alcohol causes a temporary general acceleration of the circulation, and increased afflux of blood to the brain and viscera, and of this the physician may take advantage. Such action may permit the evolution of energy, but only at the expense of the blood and tissue; the energy itself is not supplied by the alcohol. The writer goes on to say:

"In prescribing alcohol in chronic disease the first thing is to take care not to do harm. Alcohol has no place in the treatment of weakness in childhood. . . . The most treacherous employment of stimulants at any period of life is their administration for the relief of depression, or of sensations described as 'sinking,' or of subjective feelings of weakness, even tho such subjective sensations be accompanied by weakness of the pulse. Doubtless the immediate effect of the administration of alcohol under such circumstances is distinct and agreeable, but reaction is inevitable. . . . Disease of either kidney or liver may almost be regarded as a bar to stimulants. A good word, however, is to be said, according to the experience of Dr. A. Ransome, for the use of alcohol in phthisis and tuberculous diseases. In debility, moreover, stimulants properly employed are of great value. They should only be taken with meals, and their beneficial effects are to be estimated by the increase in the amount of food which is taken with their aid. In selecting a stimulant, then, the criterion is not its chemical constitution, but its effect on the appetite and digestion. . . . . .

"In acute febrile disease stimulants are now generally given with judgment and in moderation. Time was, however, when the treatment of fever practically resolved itself into the administration of brandy, and this idea has not even yet been entirely uprooted from the public mind. Thus we are constantly called upon to withstand the entreaties of friends who imagine that the obvious weakness of the patient calls imperatively for stimulants. In acute febrile disease stimulants should in no case be given in the early stages, but should be withheld as long as possible. . . . . .

"When stimulants promote sleep and diminish restlessness and agitation they are doing good. On the other hand, should they cause excitement, or sleeplessness, or increase the frequency of the pulse, or set up gastric or intestinal derangement, they are doing harm. The odor of the breath is to some extent a guide. In febrile complaints the smell of wine or spirits very quickly disappears from the breath. If it linger, or if the foul after-odor of the spirit-drinker be recognized, the stimulant should be withdrawn or the dose be diminished."

Volcanic Fish.—Despatches from St. Vincent announce that quantities of dead fish, apparently ejected from the crater, have been thrown up on the coast of the Leeward Islands. This is not the first report of such a phenomenon, which altho apparently mysterious admits of a simple explanation. According to M. J. Girardin, who is quoted in *Cosmos* (September 27), the facts are these:

"During the interval between two successive eruptions—an interval that is often more than a century—the crater of a volcano closes and the bottom becomes a plain. With time this

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plain turns into a lake, and the more easily because the Andean volcanoes are not small isolated peaks like those of Europe, but form a continuous chain, so that not only does water collect in the deep cavities of the craters, but far-off receptacles may empty their contents therein by means of subterranean channels.

"By these channels fish also arrive, and they multiply in the new lake. When, finally, after a number of years, more or less, a volcano again becomes active, the first result of the movement is to raise the 'cover' of the crater and to cast it afar off, with all its contents—that is, with the lake and its inhabitants.

"The fish thrown out by American volcanoes are identical with those that are found in the rivuiets at their feet, which the natives call 'preunadillas.' They belong to the genus *Silures*, but are of a small species. . . . Several examples may be cited. When the peak of Garguaraijo (20,000 feet high) was blown over a region two leagues across, the neighboring country was covered with mud and fish. A fever that raged in the city of Hurra seven years later was attributed to a similar eruption of the volcano of Imbaburu.

"Cotopaxi, Tangurahua, and Sangay also throw out fish, sometimes by the craters on their summits, sometimes by lateral openings. The Indians assure us that these creatures are yet alive when they are thrown down the mountain slopes. However this may be, it is certain that among the prodigious quantity of fish thrown out by Cotopaxi, together with fresh, cold water, very few are so much disfigured as to appear as if subjected to the action of violent heat.

"These volcanic manifestations always inspire natural terror in both natives and Europeans, and it is hardly supposable that either should think of collecting this fishy manna. . . . Professor Lacroix, of the [Paris] Museum [of Natural History], who is about to start for Martinique, will perhaps have leisure to observe this phenomenon."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

NEW SERUMS FOR FIGHTING DISEASE.

THE announcement that a serum for the treatment of scarlet fever has been discovered may add one more to the list of maladies in which serotherapy has been wholly or partially successful. In this last instance possibly more than one serum has been discovered, for Dr. Paul Moser, of Vienna, has been using a serum of whose method of preparation details are yet lacking, while Dr. G. A. Charlton, of McGill University, now declares that independent efforts by himself and Dr. Hubbert, of Detroit, have been eminently successful. Dr. Charlton does not assert that he has found the microbe that is at the bottom of the disease, but he is convinced that one of the pus-producers, or streptococci, which accompany severe cases, is really responsible for the intensity of the attack, and especially for the after-effects that are so greatly dreaded in this disease. Against this streptococcus the serum made by Dr. Charlton seems to be effective. An editorial writer in *The Tribune* (New York) tells us that other diseases may soon be added to the list of those that can be treated by the serum method. He says:

"Kindred investigations in regard to rheumatism have also reached an interesting stage within the last few weeks. Dr. Fritz Meyer, a German, thinks that he has at last discovered the germ of that malady. For a long time he hunted for it in the joints of victims. He made cultures of the lubricating fluid of the knees without success. Later he satisfied himself that the bacilli disappeared from the joints soon after the attack began, altho they lingered much longer on the tonsils, having invaded the system through the throat. Taking material from the surface of those organs, then, he was able to propagate bacteria which when introduced into the veins of rabbits would give them the usual symptoms of rheumatism. Another German, Menzer, has gone a step farther. From this same microbe—which, like Dr. Charlton's scarlet-fever germs, belongs to the family of streptococci—he has made a serum which has been employed remedially in a few cases. . . . . .

"Until these alleged discoveries are verified, not only by a continuation of the experiments of the men who made them, but also by the testimony of other experts, they can be accepted only in a tentative fashion. Time and time again it has been erroneously asserted that the germ of cancer had been detected. Over and over again have sanguine investigators announced that they had manufactured preventive or curative antitoxins. Yet to-day the only agents of this class in which the medical profession repose much confidence are the diphtheria and tetanus serums and cowpox lymph. The policy which here gives such excellent results has been attended with dubious success in dealing with tuberculosis, bubonic plague, cholera, typhoid fever, and rabies. . . . Yet revelations of more or less importance reward this line of study every year, and thus presage fresh victories. The clues which Pasteur, Lister, and Behring have given to modern science will unquestionably be followed up much further. Perhaps the conquest over disease has, after all, only just begun."

Shall We "Harden" Our Children?—There was a time when children were systematically "hardened" or inured to cold and wet. That this process can scarcely be recommended is shown by the following statistics from a paper read by Dr. Hecker, of Carlsbad, before a local medical society and published in the Munich *Medikalisches Wochenschrift*. They relate to 60 children, of whom 25 had been "hardened" during their first year, 7 later, and the rest not at all. A distinction is made between mild "hardening" by daily cool plunge or sponge baths, and severe hardening by cold shower-baths or other cold-water treatments oftener than once a day. Says the writer:

"Great liability to colds was shown by 31 per cent. of the unhardened, 38 per cent. of the mildly, and 62 per cent. of the severely 'hardened.' Of severely hardened young infants, 73 per cent. were very liable to colds. The effect on the nervous system was favorable in 3, unfavorable in 4 cases of mild hardening; favorable in 4 and unfavorable in 8 cases of severe hardening. Of 15 children hardened when older than two years, 7 exhibited abnormal nervous irritability, while of those not hardened not one was either excessively boisterous or abnormally excitable. Fifty-three per cent. of the unhardened and the mildly hardened infants passed their first year in perfect health, but only 19 per cent. of the severely hardened developed into perfectly healthy children, while 66 per cent. underwent severe illnesses which left them more or less permanent invalids. Adenoid growths (hypertrophy of the tonsils) appeared in 20 per cent. of the unhardened, in 30 per cent. of the mildly hardened, and in 40 per cent. of the severely hardened. Other consequences of excessive hardening were anemia, neurasthenia, loss of appetite, crying at night, chronic bowel diseases, and lessened power to withstand disease in general."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

TEA-DRUNKARDS.—A Philadelphia victim of the tea habit is described in *Good Health*, which quotes from a local paper: "This young man visits Chinatown regularly, and drinks the special tea which is brewed there at twenty-five cents a bowl. He will put away, in an evening, fifteen or twenty bowls, becoming finally as boisterous and silly as tho he had put away as many cocktails, tho he will not stagger. He says he remembers nothing after the ninth or tenth bowl of tea, and that on the day after one of his sprees he has a wretched headache and a sore, parched mouth."

PATENT medicines, it appears, are to be barred from the St. Louis Exposition. Mr. J. A. Ockerson, chief of the Liberal Arts department of the Exposition, is quoted in the Atlanta *Journal-Record of Medicine* as saying: "Articles that are in any way dangerous or offensive; also patent medicines, nostrums, and empirical preparations whose ingredients are concealed, will not be admitted to the Exposition. The director of exhibits, with the approval of the president, has the authority to order the removal of any article he may consider dangerous, detrimental to or incompatible with the object or decorum of the Exposition or the comfort and safety of the public."

"WHEN we consider what an important adjunct the telegraph has become to the railroads," says *The Electrical World and Engineer*, "it is hard to get oneself back to the time of the Baltimore and Ohio experiments of 1844, and to take seriously Professor Morse's suggestion that if a break were found in the telegraph wire, the train should stop long enough to repair it. But this is what he said: 'Very little interruption would take place if the train that discovered a break would stop not more than five minutes, and, being furnished with pieces of wire already prepared for the purpose, any one could simply unwrap and scrape the broken ends and unite them by twisting the ends of the pieces of wire to them.'"

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

WAS CHRIST SUPERNATURALLY BORN IN BETHLEHEM?

ONE of the problems that never disappears from the critical discussions of the day is the question as to the supernatural birth of Christ. It was only a few years ago that the proposal of Professor Harnack to eliminate from the Apostles' Creed the words "Conceived of the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary" shook the Protestant Church of Germany from center to circumference. In critical circles the accounts given by Matthew and Luke of the supernatural birth of Christ in Bethlehem are generally regarded as legendary. Recently again the problem has come into the foreground through a work of Prof. Wilhelm Soltan, entitled "Die Geburtsgeschichte Jesu Christi." As his position is typical of the school he represents, the work is attracting a good deal of attention. His line of argument is the following:

1. The Gospel of St. Mark is an evidence against the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, as it is the oldest Gospel record and it has nothing to say on this subject. This Gospel knows of Jesus only as a native of the city of Nazareth.

2. The Acts of the Apostles also mention Nazareth as the city where Jesus was born, but never Bethlehem (chaps. iii., iv., vi., x., xxii., xxvi.).

3. The fourth Gospel also, especially in its oldest sections, is against Bethlehem as the birthplace of Jesus (John vi. 42; vii. 15, 41). It is evident from a careful perusal of these passages that they are polemical and directed against those who will believe on Jesus only if he is recognized as the son of David and as having been supernaturally born in Bethlehem.

4. The Apostle Paul, in the beginning of the Epistle to the Romans (Rom. i. 3), mentions Jesus as the son of Joseph only, and in the Epistle to the Galatians pronounces in favor of a natural and human and against a supernatural origin of the Lord. The passage Galatians iv. 4, correctly interpreted, shows this.

5. Even in the reports given by the first and the third Gospels, the original tradition of the human origin of Jesus still can be detected, as the son merely of Joseph and Mary, for even these declare that Nazareth was the real home of the holy family.

6. The departure from the original facts in Matthew and Luke in favor of a prophetic conception that makes Jesus born in Bethlehem in conformity with Micah v. 1, is in reality to be attributed to Gentile influence in imitation of the deification with which the Gentiles were accustomed to honor their heroes, notably the Roman emperors. The legend concerning the supernatural birth of Jesus in Bethehem is an adaptation of the Gentile fables to the Jewish story, as can be seen in detail in the following:

(*a*) The legend of the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary through the agency of the Holy Spirit is an imitation of such myths as made Alexander the Great a descendant of Jupiter Ammon, or Octavianus a descendant from Apollo, as reported by Suetonius.

(*b*) The story of the song of the angels at the birth of Jesus, glorifying him as the Prince of Peace, is an imitation of similar laudations of the emperors, notably Augustus, which are found in goodly numbers in the inscriptions of Priene, Apamea, Halicarnassus, and elsewhere.

(*c*) The legend of the worshiping of the infant Jesus by the Wise Men of the East is doubtless copied from the story told by Plinius and Dio Cassius of the adoration of the Emperor Nero by the Armenian Magus Tiridates.

Quite naturally, this renewed attack upon the New-Testament story of the birth of Christ has aroused opposition in conservative circles. One of the strongest antagonists has been Professor Zöckler, of Greifswald, who gives a lengthy reply in the *Beweis des Glaubens* (Gütersloh, No. 11), the substance of which is the following:

It is already noteworthy that the author can defend his position only by an array of *argumenta ex silentio* and by extra-Biblical parallels. His claim that even a Paul and a John were ignorant of the supernatural birth of Jesus is of surpassing boldness and is overwhelmed by dozens of passages from their writings. The interpretation of Galatians iv. 4 is clearly wrong, and the whole superstructure is based upon the *a priori* hypotheses that the birth of Christ and the origin of Christianity are purely natural phenomena of history. And these vagaries are called "the certain results of modern Biblical criticism"! This argumentation and these conclusions of Soltan only show again how purely subjective the modern destructive criticism of the Scriptures is, and how little objective foundation it has for its radical positions.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF FAMILIAR TOYS.

THE familiar toys with which children play have a long and honorable ancestry. In past ages these playthings were regarded as seriously as the tools and weapons and other appurtenances of man. More than that, "they were often his most cherished possessions; they were symbols of his religious aspirations, factors in his worship, sometimes the very images of the gods themselves." So we are informed by Stewart Culin, curator of the Archeological Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, to whose article on the subject (in *The Woman's Home Companion*, December) the approach of the Christmas season lends special timeliness. He writes:

"What a very ordinary and amusing toy is a jumping-jack! Side by side with it in the picture [see next page] is placed an idol which was made by the Maoris of New Zealand. They used this idol in their religious dances, swaying it to and fro. We find the same curious object among the Indians of the Northwest; it closely resembles our toys, but is employed as an instrument in ceremonies to propitiate the gods. . . . . .

"A baby's rattle looks innocent and simple enough; it seem made just to quiet children; in reality it is one of the oldest and most sacred implements of worship that the world knows! When you shake a tin rattle before a baby's eyes to make him stop crying you are doing just what priests two thousand years ago did when they worshiped their gods."

Up on the great plateau of Tibet, Buddhist priests in strange garments still shake a gruesome rattle, made of two human skulls covered with parchment, when they want to drive out evil spirits or to call attention to their prayers. The well-known child's "hobby-horse" is an almost exact imitation of a toy horse used by the Sioux Indians in their war-dances, and invested with sanctity by their "medicine men." We quote further:

"The 'scissors' toy, made of jointed slats, is sold on the streets everywhere, and when it has a clown's head which suddenly grows into a long-jacketed man it is very funny. But how different the first use of this toy! Would you believe it, and isn't it very strange, that the ancestor of this toy was once actually an appurtenance in Christian worship? But it's true, nevertheless, such queer things the whirligig of time brings about! Over in England a thousand years ago, when the monks wanted to help the people understand the birth of Christ and its significance, they acted it all out for them in a little play. These were called miracles, and out of them grew our modern drama. In these plays the 'scissors' toy was used by the 'star-bearer' to carry the 'Star of the East.' The Zuñi Indians have precisely the same instrument to imitate lightning and project the great 'cosmical worm' in their religious rites."

Certain toys, as everybody knows, are associated with certain times of the year. "Top-time" and "marble-time" are quite definite seasons. In China, Japan, and other Eastern countries the use of toys at particular seasons can be traced back, in many cases, to religious festivals. In Korea there is a children's festival on the eighth day of the fourth month, and the chief plaything at that time is an image made of paper, weighted with clay in such a way as to enable it immediately to resume an upright position if laid on its side. This image, which is called the "O-tok-i," or "Upright Standing One," is a survival

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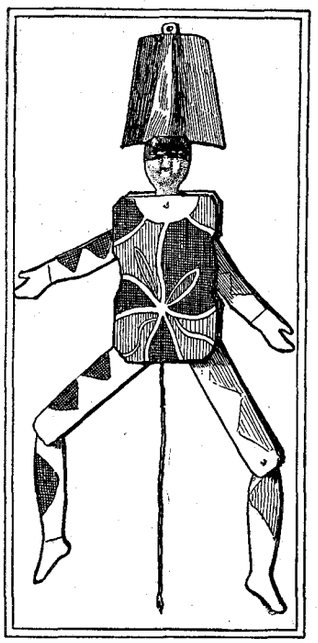
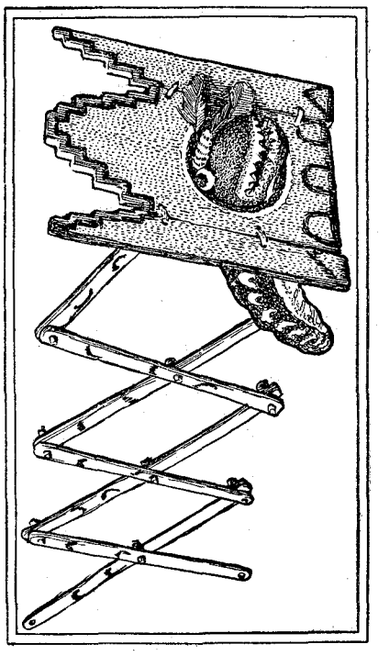


THE JUMPING JACK SEEN IN OUR MODERN NURSERIE—A PALPABLE IMITATION OF THE CENTURIES-OLD JUMPING-JACK.

A NEW ZEALAND JUMPING-JACK OF RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE.

THE "SCISSORS" TOY AS SOLD ON THE STREETS TO-DAY.



THE "SCISSORS" TOY USED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO IN CHRISTIAN CELEBRATIONS.

of an ancient deity, worshiped in the days before Buddhism came into being. Passing on to a consideration of our own Christmas season and of the Christmas-tree, which is its most spectacular feature, Mr. Culin says:

"Most of us know that the tree comes to us direct from Germany. And we know of the tree-worship of the Druids which obtained in England and France, and which probably had some influence on the later use of the tree in the Christian festival. But we do not all know that a similar festival with the tree as a crowning feature is observed among many heathen nations, and that it comes from sun-worship, which is older than history. The revival of the sun after the winter solstice has ever been the subject of rejoicing, and of celebration by ceremonies which represent the new light brought back to the world. Our tree, with its small candles, its gilded knick-knacks and toys for the children, is a direct descendant of this old festival in honor of the sun.

"Traces of it exist in Iceland, where the 'service-tree' is found adorned with burning lights during Christmas night. The English yule-log is a faint survival of this festival. But it is beyond these that I wish to draw your attention, back further even than the Druid mysteries of the Gallic forests. It is to China, that home of all wonders and of all history. It has been shown that as long ago as 247 B.C. a tree with a hundred lamps and flowers was placed on the steps of the audience-hall. This appears again in the records of Princess Yang, who lived 713–755 A.D., and who caused a hundred-lamp tree eighty feet high to be erected on a mountain. It was lighted during New Year's night, and the illumination was seen for hundreds of miles, eclipsing the light of the moon. This candle-tree is no longer lighted in China, being replaced by an unusual number of lanterns, which are hung everywhere. A suggestion of the tree, however, still survives in Japan. At the New Year two evergreen-trees are placed without, on either side of the door. Their tops are tied together with the sacred band of straw, and various objects, dried lobsters and oranges, are fastened to their branches."

These curious analogies between the toys of nations so widely separated are regarded by Mr. Culin as a new illustration of the fundamental unity of the human race. He concludes:

"There is a kinship and fellowship in man which science more and more reveals. The result of our studies and collections is not, as many naturally suppose, from the strange and peculiar objects we bring together in our museums, to show how *unlike* man is, how his choicest intellectual and artistic triumphs are but the products of low and debasing superstitions, but rather to tell the story of his great struggle with nature, to reveal his history from the time when he regarded the beasts as his fellows, and propitiated the mighty powers of nature which have now become his servants.

"The children who dance around a Christmas-tree do so because hundreds of years ago strange men in strange garments worshiped around a tree in an English forest. In their own groping, but honest, way they were feeling after God. In other countries of the Far East the little children with almond eyes and queer, long smocks place small tree-like objects on an altar and burn candles to a strange Chinese being. They, too, are worshiping the great Father of all."

THE OLDEST LAW-BOOK IN THE WORLD.

WHAT is characterized as a law-code throwing more light on Babylonian culture than that thrown by any previously discovered document—"the oldest in the history of institutions, and one of the most important in the early history of human civilization"—has been unearthed in Persia by an expedition of French archeologists. The text of the code was found transcribed on a diorite column, 2.25 meters in height, in the ruins of Susa. On the upper part of the column is a picture of Hammurabi, king of Babylon about 2300 B.C. This code is therefore many hundred years older than the Mosaic code, and it was probably brought to the Persian capital with other trophies and booty. Says *The Independent:*

"The history of early law will have to be rewritten. Moses can no longer stand as the oldest known lawgiver. It will no longer be possible to charge that the Pentateuch contains legislation too minute and elaborate to belong to the period of the Exodus. A Babylonian law code has been dug up in Persia nearly a thousand years older than Moses. We can anticipate the delight of Sayce and Hommel in their attacks on the critics.

"Hammurabi was king of Babylon about 2300 B.C. He is the 'Amraphel, king of Shinar,' of the fourteenth chapter of Genesis, who led the confederate army that captured the cities of the plain in the days of Abraham and Melchizedek. He established a great Semitic empire and made Babylon its capital and Marduk its chief god. His empire covered all the known East, from Elam, or Persia, to the Mediterranean Sea.

"During the last ten years M. de Morgan has been employed

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by the French Government to explore the ruins of Susa, the ancient capital of Elam. This was 'Shushan, the palace' of Xerxes, the Ahasuerus of the Book of Esther; where Nehemiah was cup-bearer to the king, and here after the accession of Cyrus the Achemenian kings of Persia held their winter court, and their summer court at Persepolis, whose columns have been the admiration of travelers and the reputed abode of jinns and afrites, where was the throne of Jemshid, and where

unnumbered rubies burn
Beneath the pillars of Chilminar."

The text of this rare find is already published in Paris and is in course of translation into German. It is elucidated by V. Scheil, a French Assyriologist and professor at the Ecole de Hautes Etudes in Paris. Fragments of this Hammurabi code have been known to exist for hundreds of years. Portions were found in the library of Assurbanipal (650 B.C.), and specimens are preserved in the Berlin Museum. In addition to introductory statements, the inscriptions contain some three hundred paragraphs, each of which begins with the word "If," just as Draco's laws opened with the word θεσμός. A summary of these enactments of Abraham's contemporary is interesting and instructive. We glean the following:

Legal cases were tried before a court of judges, at the head of whom was a president. The facts in the case were learned through witnesses and written documents. The care taken in this regard is evident from the following example: "If anybody has bought or received as a deposit silver, or gold, or a male slave or a female slave, or a steer, or a sheep, or an ass, or anything else from a free man or a slave without witnesses or written documents, he is to be treated as a thief and shall be killed."

In some cases there was even an appeal to divine judgment. The accused was compelled to go down into a stream of water, and "if the river seized him" he was guilty; but "if he remained in good health," he was innocent. In this way those charged with witchcraft and women accused of infidelity, but not caught in the act, were tried.

The punishments inflicted were severe. Death was the penalty for witchcraft or for false oath in capital cases, or for robbing a temple or royal possessions. Any person who permitted a slave to escape, or harbored an escaped slave, was punished by death, as was an official who failed to attend to his duties himself but intrusted these to a substitute. The death penalty was inflicted either by fire, or drowning, or impaling. The first method was applied in the case of those who during a fire had stolen goods. Drinking-places were seemingly as much in discredit at that age as they are now. We learn that such places were generally kept by women and that they were headquarters for dangerous political agitations. The code declares that if the landlady failed to report dangerous inmates to the authorities, she was to die. A priestess was not allowed to enter such a drinking-place under penalty of death. Death by drowning was applied in the case of an adulteress, "unless the husband grants his wife her life and the king does the same to his servant." Crimes of a less serious character were sometimes followed by loss of some member of the body, it being the rule to cut off that member which had been guilty of the offense. In this way an adopted daughter or adopted son who said to his foster-father and mother that they were not his parents should lose his or her tongue.

In general the Old-Testament principle of an "eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" is consistently carried out in this Babylonian code. Among other things it says: "If a man knock out the eye of a freeman, his own eye shall be forfeited. If he break one of the members of a man, his own member shall be removed." But this rule applied only in the case of freemen. If the suffering party were a slave, a payment of money could make good the wrong; the same was true of a freedman. On the other hand, if an inferior struck a superior, he was punished with fifty lashes, and if he was a slave his ear was cut off. The *lex talionis* was carried so far that if a surgeon was unsuccessful in performing an operation, he was not entitled to any pay. If the patient died under the hand of the surgeon, the latter lost his hands, in case the patient was a free man. If a slave died under his hand, he must buy another. In case a builder made a failure of a structure he was also punished with death. Whether imprisonment was one method of punishing wrongdoers does not appear, but evidently if at all applied it was of comparatively small importance. Money fines were, however, very common, and were proportionate to the wrong done. He who falsely claimed that another was indebted to him must pay one-third of a mina. Freemen fighting were fined one mina. Theft of an animal was punishable by a fine of thirty times its value.

Hammurabi was much concerned for the safety of his highways. A robber who attacked a person on the public road was killed, or if he could not be found, then the community in which the crime had taken place was fined a mina, in case the life of a human being had been lost. In addition to these forms of punishment, transgressing officials could be removed from office or banished from the city or the state. Some of the paragraphs throw strange light on the state of sexual morals in that period.

Among other things, the priestesses and hierodule system, so imperfectly known from classical writers, are here for the first time seen in their proper light. The code closes with a price-list for a whole series of services and with a lengthy prayer addressed to the chief divinities.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

AS TO THE "FIRST AND OLDEST CHURCH" IN AMERICA.

A CURIOUS controversy has been brought to the attention of the public by the conflicting claims of two churches in Plymouth, Mass., to be regarded as in the true line of succession from the original church of the Pilgrims. The Unitarians have built and at present are using a meeting-place dedicated to the memory of the Pilgrims. Close by is the Orthodox Congregational Third Church of Plymouth, which a hundred years ago separated itself from the First Church. An appeal has been issued by the latter church for money to erect a new memorial edifice in honor of the Pilgrims. The Unitarian church claims to be "the first democratic, the first distinctly Congregational church in New England"; while the Orthodox church asks for recognition as the rightful successor of "the church of Scrooby, Leyden, and the *Mayflower*" and as "the first and oldest church in America."

President Eliot, of Harvard University, the Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, the Hon. John D. Long, and other prominent Massachusetts Unitarians have signed a circular-letter protesting against the claims of the Orthodox "Church of the Pilgrimage." We quote from this document as follows:

"It is not our purpose to antagonize or to discourage the building in Plymouth of another memorial church to the Pilgrims; but in view of certain statements in the appeal, and of claims made elsewhere by the Church of the Pilgrimage, which distort the truth of history, we deem it our duty as New England men to set forth certain facts, readily verifiable, in the interest of historic truth and justice. . . . . .

"It is of record that the Church of the Pilgrimage was organized in 1801 as 'The Third Church of Christ in Plymouth,' its present name having been formally adopted in 1870. It was formed by a minority of both church and parish, who voluntarily seceded from the First Church (the Church of the Pilgrims), leaving behind an overwhelming majority of the combined church and parish in rightful and undisputed possession of the property, records, and organization.

"Altho the petitioners to the legislature in 1801 for incorporation as 'The Third Church of Christ in Plymouth' stated as one reason for the secession that they 'can not conscientiously unite in public worship with those from whom they separated,' Unitarianism did not enter into the incident, as is now mistakenly claimed. The First Church was at that time and for many years thereafter in recognized Orthodox Congregational fellowship. It did not become Unitarian until nearly a generation later, and then simply reaffirmed the original Pilgrim covenant which had been displaced by the adoption of a Calvinistic creed in 1795."

The Boston *Congregationalist* admits the correctness of these facts. "There are good and sufficient reasons," it declares, "why Congregationalists should aid in building a suitable memorial"

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in Plymouth, but those reasons are based not on the priority of the Congregational Church, but on the fact that it "perpetuates the faith of the Pilgrims, whose original members came from the church which the Pilgrims brought with them to this country."

The Boston *Christian Register* (Unitarian) comments:

"Unitarians can have no proper objection and do not object to the building of a new house of prayer in Plymouth, dedicated to the memory of the Pilgrims. Those who believe that they are the spiritual heirs of the First Church, and that there is committed to them a heritage of spiritual tradition and power, for the administration of which they are responsible to their fellow men, have a right to take such measures as they please to glorify the past and to serve the present. In any case by direct descent both Orthodox and Unitarian Congregationalism in New England are related to the churches of the Pilgrims and the Puritans. But neither of them could properly make objection if the Episcopal Church in America should also build a memorial in Plymouth, claiming, what is true, that the doctrines of the Pilgrims were for the most part derived from the mother church in England, and that in spite of their protests they really represented her principles and teachings upon American soil. . . .

"We should like to see the new church built in Plymouth; and then, after it is dedicated, we should like to see a day of thanksgiving and praise, celebrated by two joint services, one to be held in the First Church, and one in the Third Church, and conducted, say, by Dr. Hale and Dr. Gordon, or any other representative men who might be chosen."

A FRENCH SYMPOSIUM ON THE MENACE OF DEATH.

NOVEMBER 1 is "Le Jour des Morts" in France—the day consecrated to the honor of the dead. Its recurrence year by year brings home the mystery of death to even the most light-hearted, and its somber spirit is reflected in the pages of the Paris journals. "The thought of death," observes *Le Journal des Débats*, "seems to be as full of terror to our nineteenth-century free-thinkers as it was to the devout religious souls of past generations. Alphonse Daudet acknowledged that this thought poisoned his life. It haunted Emile Zola; and Lazarus, whom he depicts in 'La Joie de Vivre,' was a victim of this death-horror. The works of Pierre Loti are full of the same spirit. Maupassant was constantly possessed by it."

M. Frederic de France, a Paris literary man, has asked a number of French celebrities to define something of their feeling toward death, and he publishes the results of his inquiry in *La Revue*. "Shall we believe with Mohammed," he asks, in a foreword, "that immortality is certain; or shall we say with Job that 'as the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away, so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more'? This is the eternal problem. The thinker seeks the truth from Krishna, from Plato, from Jesus, from Nietzsche; but neither the religious teachers nor the philosophers have succeeded in answering the riddle."

"Why shall I regret to die," replied M. Brieux, the poet, when he was approached on this subject; "for so long as I am not dead, I shall hope to live. And when I am dead I shall not know that I am dead." M. Anatole France quotes a sentiment of Euripides. "We cling to this life," he says, "because we know no better. Let us not be vainly agitated by lies." M. Paul Adam, critic and novelist, declares:

"I would not regret to die if it were only a question of relinquishing the good things of life. I have no more confidence, however, in death than I have in life. . . . Death does not promise rest, unconsciousness; it is more likely to be an absurd and obscure *palingenesis*, of which I am afraid. On earth I realize that I have to expect material trouble, incessant work, the hostility of friends, the calculations of those around me. Will it be worse in death? The scientists answer: 'Probably.'"

M. Jean Berthelot, the chemist, thinks that we feel the pain of death most when it summons us from work unfinished. "What poet, painter, or sculptor," he asks, "would not grieve to die before his work was completed?" Louise Michel, the anarchist-communist, says:

"Under no circumstances would I regret to die, because in the eternal harmony of the universe the being that dies, the leaf that falls, the world that disappears, are obeying a rhythmic law that we do not understand as yet. . . . At times I have wished to die, because it is noble to die for our cause, and because death is the great propagator of ideas."

Some of the responses are of a rather flippant nature. E. Reyer, a prominent Paris musician, prefers not to die just yet, on the ground that he would have to meet in the hereafter people whom he had carefully avoided in this world. Edmond Harancourt would like to live several centuries to watch developments. Henry Kistemaeckers thinks that dead people will have one blessing to be thankful for; they will escape the interviewers. He adds:

"Where shall we find ourselves when we die? In the land of the saints or of the houris? In an oasis of virtue, or a universe of wisdom, or a seventh heaven? If you will reconcile the differences between the Book of Buddha and the Koran, between the utterances of St. Paul and of Pascal, I may be able to say whether I should wish to die."

Dmitri Merejkowski, the latest biographer of Tolstoy, writes in *La Revue Bleue* (Paris) of the great Russian writer's attitude toward death. We quote:

"The fear of death haunted Tolstoy in his youth. The feeling increased when he saw his young brother Nicolas die; he believed that he also was consumptive and that his end would soon come. The thought of physical weakening and slow, oncoming death dominates some of his bitterest and most despairing pages. . . . And yet when he wrote last year to the procurator of the Holy Synod, he spoke of his approaching death with such simple and noble spirit that we realize that death has at last lost all its terrors for him."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

PROF. HENRY CHURCHILL KING has been elected to the presidency of Oberlin College (Congregationalist), filling the vacancy created by the death of Dr. John Henry Barrows.

A NEW Russian Orthodox church, costing $140,000, was consecrated in New York a few days ago. The inaugural services were conducted by Archbishop Tikhon, the head of the Russian Church in North America and the Aleutian Islands, and were attended by the Russian Ambassador, Mayor Low, the Rev. Dr. William R. Huntington, and Bishop Grafton, of Fond du Lac, Wis.

ONE of the most interesting Christian organizations in the country, says *The Outlook*, is that known as the Gideons. This society is made up of Christian traveling men, who wear a Gideon button as a means of recognition. The society had its beginning in 1899 with twelve members, and now numbers 23,000, with camps, as its local branches are designated, in eighteen different States and Territories.

THE Advent season in New York was inaugurated by a great Episcopal revival on behalf of foreign missions. Bishop Tuttle of Missouri, Bishop Capers of South Carolina, the Lord Bishop of Thetford, England, and Bishops Potter, Garret, and Partridge, of Kioto, Japan, were among those who addressed meetings. The success of the crusade, remarks *The Churchman*, "must have quite fulfilled the expectation of those with whom the plan originated, and certainly justifies the hope that this may be an annual experience of our church life."

THE statement (in our issue of November 1) that Leo Taxil, a Paris writer at one time notorious for his pornographic writings, "is now a member of the Jesuit order, using his literary talents to further the cause of religion," has been called in question. It appears that Taxil, after his conversion to Christianity in 1885, became what is commonly called a "Jesuite de Robe Courte," *i.e.*, a layman affiliated with the Society of Jesus. He wrote several books on religious subjects, the last of which, published in 1891, was entitled "La Corruption Fin de Siècle."

THE REV. G. E. LITTLEFIELD, a Unitarian clergyman of Haverhill, Mass., proposes to inaugurate a new Socialistic church, with a cooperative department-store attached. The Golden Rule is to be the only creed, and it is hoped that "all the liberal and reforming interests, including the new-thought cults, ethical culturists, socialists, cooperators, spiritualists, trade-unionists, and others" may be attracted. "This project," comments the Chicago *Interior*, "seems to rest on no very acute idea of the office of religion, but American experience shows that it is not safe from such a premise to prophesy that it will come to naught."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE IN VENEZUELA.

PRESIDENT CASTRO seems destined to afford the world an object-lesson, on a most ambitious scale, with reference to the nature and limits of the Monroe Doctrine. The real merits of the dispute between Venezuela and her creditors are quite obscured by the greater question raised as a result of the combined action of Great Britain and Germany. European opinion is that the Monroe Doctrine is about to enter upon a new stage in its organic development. English papers say the time has at last come for the United States to reconcile itself to the assumption of a certain responsibility for South America. German papers do not enter into this phase of the matter. The relations of our country to the present complication are thus defined by the *Magdeburger Zeitung:*

"President Castro has hitherto met all demands with evasions. He has been confirmed in his aggravating demeanor by the assumption that the United States would not tolerate coercion by Germany and Britain because of the terms of the Monroe Doctrine. The procrastinating gentlemen has deceived himself in this instance. Germany and Great Britain have made satisfactory explanations of their intentions to Washington. Every anxiety of the Americans lest territorial acquisitions in Venezuela be aimed at has been soothed. The answer made by President Roosevelt to these representations was thoroughly satisfactory. It was made clear that the United States did not regard the Monroe Doctrine as a shield behind which the minor American Powers could protect themselves from the consequences of their own wrongful acts. President Roosevelt was satisfied with the assurance that the two Powers now engaged in a naval demonstration against Venezuela have no intention of acquiring territory and desire simply to protect the injured interests of their subjects. It goes without saying that a man like Roosevelt does not deem it the business of the Union to accord the unscrupulous South American policy of default the protection of the star-spangled banner."

WAR SCARE.

America wants to scalp and burn Mascagni at the stake, but can Italy go to war when Roosevelt preaches a world peace?
—*Fischietto* (Turin).

There will be a movement in Europe, according to some observers, to place the United States in a dilemma through the Monroe Doctrine, whatever be the outcome of the complication in Venezuela. British organs of opinion have for some little time past teemed with utterances on the unsatisfactory character of the South American situation, which is alleged to be aggravated by the attitude of the United States. A typical article appeared in *The New Liberal Review* (London) from the pen of W. B. Duffield. This writer says:

"The Monroe Doctrine is the one safe card in American public life which a political sharper may play in a difficulty, as it is the one appeal which the patriotic statesman may launch with confidence to rally public feeling to his side. This has been its twin-sided history since it was first stated. . . . It overshadows the Western continents, and now threatens the future of the very republics on whose behalf it came into being. The United States will admit no responsibility on their behalf, and yet claim the right to interfere between them and the rest of the world, however distant from themselves may be the republic involved, and however remote from their interests the matter in dispute. This is, if not a new, at any rate a startling theory in international relations; but it must be faced by Europe as well as by South America. The violent impulse toward expansion overseas recently set in motion among European nations has roused them to a sense of the immense significance of this claim to universal jurisdiction in the New World put forward by the United States. It is indeed contested in its wider sense by many citizens of the United States, but their voices would be heard in vain when an Administration once seriously raised the Monroe Doctrine as a ground of quarrel with a European state."

The South American republics, we are further told, do not relish every aspect of the Monroe Doctrine. In the event of a war over the Doctrine, Europe might find an ally on this side of the ocean:

"It is suggested that the United States might find it necessary to occupy the Panama isthmus or seize other territory in Central America. It appears, too, as if Nicaragua, which has denounced her canal treaty with the United States, were likely to give trouble in case the latter Power determines to make the canal across her territory. We may be quite sure that the rights of these interesting 'sister republics' would not be allowed to bar the construction of a ship canal. The presence of a strong armed force of United States troops permanently planted in Central America would hardly be agreeable to Mexico, which under Diaz, the nobler Bismarck of the New World, has risen from the ninth to the second place among American nations, where the public service is freer from base elements and the 'spoils' system than in any other American state, and where harbors, railways, and factories have sprung up as if by magic. Mexico can never forget the aggressions of Polk and his Jingo supporters, and would prove a valuable ally to any European nation or coalition of nations, which might have to face the United States."

A more friendly view of the subject is taken by Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., in an article on the Monroe Doctrine in *The Nineteenth Century* (London). He points out that the Doctrine has a certain elasticity which compels the United States to look for guidance to circumstances as they arise and to refrain from committing itself to any hard-and-fast rule of action:

"The Doctrine is a living power because it has been adopted by the Government and the people of the United States, with little or no regard to party divisions, for the best part of a century. Since it is not a formula to be construed according to its literal terms like a statute or a convention, there is no reason why its application should be limited to precisely similar facts. The question in every case is not whether the facts fall within Monroe's words, or the words of any later President or Secretary of State, but whether they are within the spirit and the general purpose of the policy to which Monroe's message first gave an authentic shape. Adams, Jefferson, and Monroe could not foresee, for example, the making of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. But they would probably have held, as a natural consequence of their principles, that such a canal, if made, ought to be free from the control of any European Power. As a set-off to the complete freedom of action which the United States—wisely, so far as I may venture on an opinion—thought fit to reserve, the United States, like any other independent Power,

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must act on its own view of national policy, whenever it does act, at its own risk. This is fully realized by President Roosevelt."

French opinion continues to be dispassionate and detached, the *Temps* (Paris) adhering to its view that it will require great firmness and discretion on the part of President Roosevelt to keep Germany within limits. Finally, it must be remembered that Venezuela does not accept the claims of her European creditors at their face value. The German railway indebtedness is the outcome of expenses incurred partly as a result of illegitimate insurrectionary operations in which the European creditors allowed themselves to become involved. Such is Castro's claim. He professes to be willing to submit the whole matter of the English and German claims to a (Venezuelan) commission. The troublesome railway runs from Caracas to Valencia, and some $16,000,000 was spent on it, altho its length is only 110 miles. Two German banks loaned, or claim to have loaned, $10,000,000 to the Government, but this transaction Castro refuses to recognize as a legitimate one. The claims of the English creditors are partly for their investments and partly for unpaid indemnities. As regards them the Venezuelan Government makes the point that Great Britain has always refused to collect South American investment claims by force, and has warned her subjects that such investments must be made at their own risk. This policy was applied in Argentina, according to Castro, and it should be applied in Venezuela. Castro professes willingness to pay any indemnities to British subjects that may be awarded by the Venezuelan courts. The European creditors, however, do not trust the Venezuelan courts.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

REASSEMBLY OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT.

THE reassembly of the Italian parliament has brought the "Southern question" to an acute stage. This question, stated briefly, arises from the depression in the lower half of the peninsula. Baron Sonnino, who leads the opposition in Italy, decries the ministerial policy of public works as a means of relief. He urges reduction of the land tax, of the interest on Southern mortgages, and of rents. He attributes the depression largely to laws which, altho they work well in the North, are not adapted to conditions elsewhere. In analyzing Southern depression, he attributes it to destruction of the vineyards, overproduction of the olive, and usury. The *Giornale d'Italia* (Rome) supports these views warmly. It says the Zanardelli ministry is ruining the land by catering to the Socialist vote. Dangerous Socialistic legislation is to be looked for now that parliament is again in session. Instead of wasting the public money on aqueducts and an unnecessary railroad, the Government should try to bring the neglected estates of the South into cultivation.

These views are combated with energy by the ministerial *Tribuna* (Rome). It points out that the masses want work. In order to get it they are emigrating to the United States and South America. The Government must make Naples an industrial center, give it better railway connection with Rome, expand the aqueduct system, and infuse energy into the drooping spirits of the wage-earners. The Government is not catering to the Socialists. It has even alienated some of them by stern repression of labor disturbances. Thus rages the debate, and the *Journal des Débats* (Paris) is prompted by it to consider the prospects in the Italian parliament:

"It is natural that the ministerial question should chiefly preoccupy the parliamentary world. It is all a matter of computing the chances of the Zanardelli-Giolitti cabinet. This ministry—the first of the present reign, since the King was pleased to retain his father's cabinet—rests upon a very democratic basis. Altho no Socialist is actually a member of it, it relies upon the extreme left for its existence. Such a combination must occasionally face serious embarrassments. If it offends the Socialists, it runs the risk of being abandoned by them and thus finding itself in a minority. If, on the other hand, it makes them too many concessions, it may arouse anxiety in its right wing and furnish new arguments to the opposition. Hence the necessity under which Messrs. Zanardelli and Giolitti labor, of adopting a policy of balances that is not unattended by peril."

As an illustration of this the Paris paper refers to recent disturbances at Candela and Giarratana, which were put down "with some effusion of blood." Thereupon the Socialist press attacked the Government for its "massacre of the people":

"Was this a signal for a rupture between the Socialists and the ministry? The friends of the latter were soon reassured. The tempest subsided. The Socialists must know that the present Government, even if not wholly satisfactory to themselves, represents the least of two evils from their point of view. Not only is Signor Zanardelli a convinced Liberal of long standing, but his second, Signor Giolitti, Minister of the Interior, has repeatedly shown tendencies so democratic that it would be almost license in the Socialists to ask him to go further."

There is another side to the character of Signor Giolitti, however, and it is plainly put by the London *Times:*

"The serious dangers to which the ministry was exposed in the earlier stages of its existence was the revolt of the Socialists, and Signor Giolitti, who owes his place to their support, has used it with incomparable dexterity to tame them. Their party is disorganized and broken up in the chamber, and the Minister of the Interior has taught their followers in the country, by the unhesitating use both of legal and of 'extra-legal' methods, that he means to preserve public order. He understands . . . the limitations of Liberalism, as Liberalism is held by his brother deputies. They agree in practise, if not in theory, with Cosimo de Medici that states are not to be governed by 'paternosters,' and they are ready to support a strong ruler who 'gets things done without fuss,' even if he boldly tramples on their pet principles when these happen to stand in his way."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE MOVEMENT FOR HUNGARIAN INDEPENDENCE.

THERE exists what is known as a "party of independence" in Hungary. Its nominal leader is Francis Kossuth, son of the famous national leader. The present aim of the independence party is said to be to "drive" Francis Joseph to abdicate as King of Hungary. This is a difficult task, for Francis Joseph—who is called "the King" in Hungary—has won and retained great personal popularity. However, the monarch has been the object of much virulent attack from the independence party and its organs of late. This led Maurus Jokai, the aged Hungarian writer, to publish a spirited defense of the King in the *Magyar Nemzet.* Jokai implored the party of independence to cease its "unholy conduct." He also urged the King to come and live in Hungary. The effect of Jokai's manifesto has not been marked. The situation has grown so strained, in fact, that the Hungarian Premier, Koloman Szell, who holds office chiefly through the support of the "Liberal" party, has said in the *Politische Correspondenz* (Vienna) that he will dissolve parliament if matters do not mend. The aggressive Magyars accuse Mr. Szell of showing too much sympathy with Austria, for the sake of currying favor with Francis Joseph. But the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) thinks this idea absurd:

"The King, who does his duty as a sovereign very conscientiously, even to the extent of sacrificing his health and peace of mind, has always had the interests of Hungary at heart. He has shown that scores of times. Invested with the crown of St. Stephen, as well as with that of Austria, and sovereign of two countries united under his sway, Francis Joseph would never show one any preference over the other, or favor one at the

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expense of the other. To him Hungarian interests and Austrian interests are blended in the common interests of the monarchy as a whole."

The Hungarian party of independence deceives itself if it thinks the country wants to terminate its relations with Austria, in the opinion of this observer. And *The Spectator* (London) points out the great unifying influence of the dynasty of which Francis Joseph is the head:

"That strange but historical nexus, the Hapsburg authority, holds forty millions of Europeans in quiet and safety, and allows time for civilization to penetrate deeply into populations which have scarcely yet imbibed it fully, and are liable if the withes are once broken to lose it altogether in a long spasm of confused war. So long as that bond endures, Austria, with its multitudes of potential soldiers, can hardly be attacked; and, at all events, while Constantinople remains in powerless hands, it can, and to all appearance will, remain non-aggressive. The governing house, tho once furiously ambitious, has been taught wisdom by misfortunes. It has receded from Italy; it has withdrawn from Germany; and it is afraid if it pushes too hard in the Balkan peninsula of having, with half its own population Slav, to face the gigantic Slavic Power. It sits therefore in quiet, content with vast dominion, and intent rather on elevating its position through the prosperity of its many subjects than on adding to possessions already too numerous and too varied for its statesmen's governing skill. Of that quiescence the strength of Hungary under her Magyar rulers, the condition of which is her unity, is one great, perhaps even the principal, guaranty. The Magyars never did want Italy; they dread the very idea of more German subjects; and they are so adverse to the acquisition of more Slav territory that they protested bitterly, tho uselessly, in 1875, against the absorption of Bosnia-Herzegovina into the Hapsburg dominion. If they cease to weigh in the Dual Monarchy, one great fetter on dangerous ambitions will be released, and the Austrian empire will either become an active Power, or, more probably, be partitioned between Germany, Italy, and Russia. The confusion and, for a time at least, the misery would be something horrible."— *Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

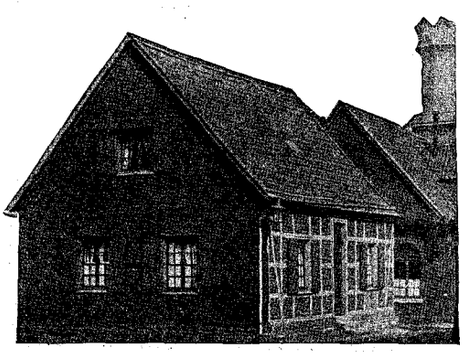
THE KRUPP SCANDAL.

FREDERICK ALFRED KRUPP, of Essen, Germany, head of the famous gun, armor-plate, and steel works, died suddenly under sensational circumstances on November 22. There were vague reports that he had committed suicide, impelled thereto by charges in some Socialist papers with reference to his life on the island of Capri. Emperor William attended the funeral and took advantage of the occasion to denounce not only "these infamous slanders" but the whole Socialist movement in Germany. The physician's statements show that Herr Krupp died of a stroke of apoplexy.

The great steel magnate was only forty-nine years old. He was the wealthiest German subject of his day, it is said, and employed about 40,000 people. We quote the London *Times*:

"He was the only son of Alfred Krupp, whose father, Friedrich Krupp, initiated on a very small scale at Essen the industrial enterprise which is now understood to be the greatest in the world in the hands of a private firm. The works of the small iron foundry which Friedrich Krupp established in the early years of the last century were driven by water-power; his business never became extensive, and had to cope with constant financial and other difficulties for a period of nearly thirty years. The reputation of Krupp, which now fills the world, is said to have been originally founded by a block of steel which the firm showed at the London Exhibition of 1851. It was the rapid growth of Prussia into a military Power of the first rank, however, followed by the unification of Germany and the consequent creation of the vast German army, which gave the firm its great opportunity, and ultimately its almost unexampled prosperity, as the manufacturers of artillery and ammunition. Other Powers, not only in Europe, but eventually in Asia and on the American continent, followed the German example in their attempts to perfect their armaments, and Krupp received a great part of their orders. The business representation of the great firm was extended throughout the world and assumed the dimension of the diplomatic service of a Government. Meanwhile the town of Essen developed and expanded with the fortunes of the firm, and its population rose during the last fifty years from 10,000 to 100,000. The cottage in which the original founder of the firm lived is still preserved; but Alfred Krupp, his immediate successor, erected a number of villas close to the works and himself lived in one of them, surrounded by the residences of his managers. He ultimately acquired an estate near Essen, on which he built the palatial Villa Hügel."

FREDERICK A. KRUPP,
Whose sudden death was caused by "slanders" linking his name with the infamies of Tiberius at Capri.



HOME OF THE FIRST KRUPP.
Courtesy of *Social Service* (New York).

Essen is famous among manufacturing towns for the social experiments conducted there by the Krupps with a view to the amelioration of the lot of their work-people. This circumstance is said to have been directly responsible for the scandal to which Herr Krupp fell a victim, inasmuch as it brought down upon him the ire of the Socialists. They are accused of hating him because his philanthropy defeated their cause in Essen and made it impossible for them to convert the Krupp people into Socialists. But the Socialist press of Germany laughs this idea to scorn. However this may be, it is certain that an Italian Socialist paper, the *Propaganda* (Naples), began, some months ago, to make serious allegations against Herr Krupp. It seems that the late magnate spent much of his time on the island of Capri, so memorable as the scene of the worst iniquities of Tiberius. Indeed, if the Italian paper is to be heeded, Herr Krupp and Tiberius must inevitably evoke associated ideas, so far as the island of Capri is concerned. The matter was taken up by the *Gogna* (Milan), a sheet of extraordinary reputation, and there was an attempt to obtain money from the German gunmaker by showing him certain photographs. But Herr Krupp treated his would-be blackmailers with contempt.

Such was the state of affairs when the great German Socialist organ *Vorwärts* (Berlin) came into the case. This daily printed an article headed "Krupp on Capri," which purported to be an exposure of an uncompromisingly sensational kind. Herr Krupp, who cared nothing, we are told, for irresponsible Italian calumny, was overwhelmed by this blow from a German source, and never rallied from the shock. The catastrophe brought Emperor William himself upon

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the scene. He had been a warm friend and more than once the guest of the dead man. He was carried away by his indignation at what he regarded as an infamous calumny. Not only did he and the Empress send telegrams of condolence, warmly worded, to the widow, not only did William II. attend the funeral, but he expressed his feelings in the most sensational of his many sensational speeches. He would "hold the shield of the German Emperor over the family and the memory of the dead." There had happened in Germany "a thing so infamous and degrading that it made every heart tremble and had driven the blood to the cheek of every German patriot at thought of the outrage perpetrated upon the whole people." The Emperor concluded with a solemn appeal to the Krupp employees gathered about him to have nothing to do with the men or the movement responsible for "this deed, which, in its consequences, is nothing but murder."

The effect of all this upon public opinion in Germany has been prodigious. A furious debate has arisen among the newspapers, the Conservative and Liberal sheets generally denouncing the Socialist organs, while the latter retort with spirit. The *Vorwärts* is not at all daunted by the uproar it has raised and the legal measures which may be taken against it. It even renews the allegations that led to the whole affair, and in an editorial entitled "William II. against the *Vorwärts*" it alludes to the Emperor with a boldness quite unprecedented in a newspaper "made in Germany":

"Legal measures against the *Vorwärts* are in prospect. The truth has still to be established. Yet in the first stage of the process the Emperor takes it upon himself to vouch for the guilt of the accused upon his own responsibility by insisting upon the falsity and the baseness of our allegations. The law is above every one, even above the Emperor. The independence of the statutes is the life of any state. Is it allowable for the wearer of the crown to pass judgment before even the beginning of an action, thus placing the courts of law in the painful position

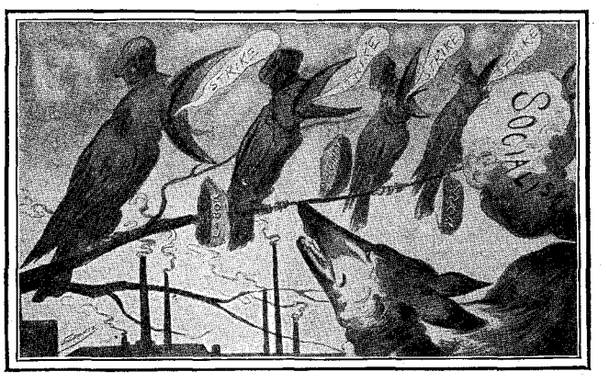
MILITARISM,

[The mother of the Muses. —*Ulk* (Berlin).

either of contradicting the imperial word or of inviting the invidious comment that their judgment was swayed by the imperial opinion?"

Nor does the Socialist organ stop here. It republishes the many denunciations of the Socialists in which Emperor William has permitted himself to indulge since he ascended the throne. Bitter indeed are the comments of the *Vorwärts* upon the imperial utterances, but they are less bitter than the comments of those papers which side with the Emperor. The Berlin *Post*, said to have been subsidized by the Krupps, speaks of "the base class hatred" of which the steel magnate was "the lamentable victim." It refers to "the devilish wickedness that spared not even the tomb" as well as to "our Emperor who so magnificently came forward." The most temperate and reasonable utterance is that of the democratic *Frankfurter Zeitung*, which goes at some length into the details of Herr Krupp's life at Capri, and concludes that he was egregiously slandered:

"The most searching investigations at Capri establish beyond a doubt that Herr Krupp fell a victim to one of the innumerable bands of blackmailers with which Italy swarms. . . . For the past four years Herr Krupp regularly spent the winter months



SOCIALIST FOX: "LET THE UNEMPLOYED WORLD COMBINE."

The old fable of the fox and the crow is illustrated in the strike situation. —*Fischietto* (Turin).

in Capri. He lived there at the Hotel Quisisana, kept by the mayor of the town of Capri, whom he often invited for the summer to Essen. A number of the inhabitants of Capri took their dinner with him daily. The fine red and white wines of Capri flowed freely. Jest and song often whiled away the hours in the Krupp apartments until far into the night. But it never occurred to Herr Krupp and his friends to indulge in the orgies hinted at by the scurrilous Italian sheets—orgies, however, which are by no means rare in Naples and its vicinity. Those who know the infamy of Neapolitan blackmailers will not wonder at the existence of photographs in which Herr Krupp figures. Artistic reproductions of such orgies are not difficult, as photographs of Krupp may be bought anywhere."

When the Emperor said "murder had been committed" he "spoke strongly," says the *Rheinische Courier*, but "not too strongly." The Emperor's "stern words at Essen" were addressed to the Krupp work-people, observes the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, "but they are really an accusation against all who are guilty of supporting the Socialist system of terror in Germany." This is the view of practically the entire anti-Socialist press of Germany. The Paris *Figaro* arrives at the conclusion that judgment must be suspended in regard to Herr Krupp until the whole truth is known. It should be noted, finally, that "the cannon king" left no male heir. His vast properties go in trust to his widow and two daughters and, the works are to be conducted by a board of directors.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POINTS OF VIEW.

RUSSIAN DISCORD.—Finance Minister Witte and Minister of the Interior Plehve are in serious disagreement, according to reports that have reached the *Kölnische Zeitung*. The result is a discord in Russian affairs that is having a bad effect upon the Czar.

MENELIK'S POLICY.—King Menelik of Abyssinia will probably give the British some aid in crushing the Mad Mullah, according to the *Journal de Djibouti*, a French paper published in East Africa. At any rate, Menelik has forbidden the sale of arms and ammunition in Harar, a step that is a direct blow to the Mullah.

THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE IN POLAND.—It has been suggested that Posen be made a place of royal residence by the German imperial family as a means of "Germanization." The German Crown Prince might be made viceroy. The *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten* says this would never do. The Poles would not be favorably impressed and it would expose royalty to the possibility of failure.

VON BULOW NOT WORRIED.—Many German papers have explained recent tariff bill amendments as the result of the German chancellor's anxiety lest he be forced to resign. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* (Berlin) is indignant at those insinuations and says it is in the highest degree improper to attribute to so great a personality as Von Bülow any anxiety of this vulgar sort.

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

A REVIEW OF AMERICAN LETTERS.

AMERICAN LITERATURE IN ITS COLONIAL AND NATIONAL PERIODS. By Lorenzo Sears, L.H.D. Cloth, 6 x 8¾ in., 461 pp. Price, $1.50 net. Little, Brown & Co.

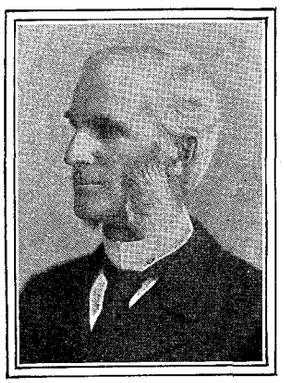
AMERICAN letters and the forces that went to produce them are here outlined in a clear and intelligent manner. Contrary to the usual method, the author does not make these begin with the Pilgrims but with Captain John Smith's published account of his own exploits, and the fortunes of the first English colony at Jamestown, Virginia. Then comes Bradford's diary of happenings among the Plymouth pilgrims, and ten years later Winthrop's minute record of things at Boston. All the disputes of the Puritan divines which culminated in literature, the quarrels with Roger Williams, Anne Hutchison, Morton of Merrymount, and the rest are duly dwelt upon. The attainments of the Mathers, their immense influence, together with that of Jonathan Edwards and others, are very fairly dealt with; nor are the beginnings of letters in New York and elsewhere omitted. Not a small writer or wit of the period leading up to the Revolution is forgotten.

But, of course, the true period of American letters is what best inspires the author's pen. The drawing of the liberal spirit he dates from about the middle of the eighteenth century, but it took definite form only in the nineteenth, with William Ellery Channing as its first exponent. Emerson, he claims, "was the legitimate product of eight generations of clerical ancestors and two centuries of corporate individualism":

"The feature of it which shocked people was that the individual should shake himself clear of the corporate and assert his personal independence. If he had carried a small congregation with him, having a few articles of agreement and belief in common, he would have been simply following numerous precedents. But he chose to stand alone and apart and take the consequences."

His estimate of Emerson is fair and clearly put:

"Whatever he saw or thought he saw, according to his own idealistic theory, was perceived with an intuition which did not wait for the slow steps of logical processes. He did not arrive at conclusions by stages observable to ordinary comprehension. When there is any connection between one station of his speech and another it is by a submerged wire. There is a flash here, another yonder . . . a paragraph of them like a handful of bullets, might be arranged in any order, yet singly or together they were effective."



LORENZO SEARS.

And yet, altho, he says that in Emerson "a leader had arisen who was to give a new direction to the thoughts of his comrades and to stir his antagonists to revising their ancient system of defenses, and as a special providence to American letters," he points out the fact that it took twelve years to sell five hundred copies of "Nature."

Hawthorne after Emerson he finds the most original of the old racial products and to-day the most eminent of creative American writers. He also takes pains to outline the relative position of New England's splendid phalanx of historical writers and Lowell's unique place in its culture. Some may think he does less than justice to Poe, tho he rates him high in lyric originality, and some of our later novelists he sums up with a brevity that will hardly meet their expectations.

AN "UP-THE-STATE" POLITICIAN.

THE HENCHMAN. By Mark Lee Luther. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 376 pp. The Macmillan Company.

THERE are people to whom "politics" of whatever complexion—national, state, municipal, or ward—spells nausea, as there are others whom it always fascinates. Either class will find Mr. Luther's eminently live study of Calvin Ross Shelby a stirring novel, well written and alive from start to finish. Shelby is "The Henchman"—the politician who stands by the "party" and "the Boss." The book opens with a convention in the Demijohn Congressional District, which lies in the part of New York State "which Ontario cools." Shelby has won the nomination. He is part and parcel of the district. His father was a spendthrift and a drunkard. From toil, through school, college, teaching, and law-practice he had risen to political leadership and had mounted with dogged steps to a seat in the Legislature. He had a hobby from that time till the end of the book, and was known as "Champion of Canals."

All of which is not thrillingly interesting. But the story begins only with his nomination to Congress. In his speech he says: "The party, not the individual, is of moment; the historic party of our fathers, the party of the living present, the party of the future whose bounds no man may set." Behold the Henchman.

Forthwith the scene shifts to the nominee's own town of New Babylon. The editor of the leading paper bolts the ticket. That is the beginning of trouble. Things work for and against the dogged and ambitious Shelby. A dilettante young swell is a rival of Shelby's for a young girl's hand, and enters the campaign as an independent candidate. Shelby delivers himself of some very honest utterance to this girl. He admits that votes are bought—that he has bought some himself. "Indiana was bought for Lincoln in 1864." Speaking of New York State politics, he says: "We are big, with big opportunities for corruption, and the tradition of sharp practice is of long standing. We bribed, intimidated, and filibustered in swaddling-clothes and stole a governorship as early as 1791. The tricks of to-day have all gone stale with handling, for the patriots we honor were politicians, too. I say deliberately, many an unworthy man is worthy of election, even by bribery, because of his party's sake, for that party's success may signify the country's salvation. I merge my personality in that of my party."

MARK LEE LUTHER.

The Boss turns the scale when Shelby's prospects are most lowering. That silky potentate assures him of his election and the governorship later on, if the candidate will be on the right side toward the River and Harbor bill. He gives his pledge.

Hilliard dies and Shelby marries his widow. As governor, the best in the man comes out. He is the statesman standing for right measures in the face of all else. He is even boomed for President. The Canal bill kills or makes him according as he acts toward it. The Boss plainly intimates that he faces political suicide if he opposes it. He suggests his letting the measure become a law without his signature, which will be occupying an honorable middle ground. "I took the precaution to veto the bill before you came to tempt," says the once Henchman.

The novel is admirably written. The curt virility, dramatic presentation of events, keen knowledge of character and of the inside workings of the "machine," and the master "machinists" are all a writer should have to be equipped for the making of a live political story.

THE STORY OF ATHENS.

THE STORY OF ATHENS. By Howard Crosby Butler, A.M. Cloth, 5¾ x 8½ in.; xvi. 532 pp. Illustrated. Price, $2.40. The Century Company.

"A SIMPLE sketch," says the author in describing this book, of the life and art of Athens, as we find them reflected or interpreted in surviving monuments or in the ancient literature, aiming, in matters historical, to hold to the viewpoint of those who were nearest to the scene to be described, rather than to discuss the credibility of the early chroniclers. Enough, he thinks, to quote the figures of Herodotus concerning the numbers of the Persians, rather than to beat the air with the modern wranglers in disputing the arithmetic of the "Father of History." And so we are spared much tedious pedantry, as we contemplate in panorama the inspiring personalities of heroes, statesmen, orators, philosophers, sculptors, poets—marshaled against a background of wars and leagues and ventures, and grouped among shattered columns and mutilated statues and the fragments of pictured vases.

In "the dusk and twilight of the gods," before men had begun to commit the record of their deeds to books or graven stones, here, in "the land of lost gods and godlike men," a wandering predatory tribe, coming upon a rocky plateau enclosed between the mountains and the shore, chose it for their dwelling-place and stronghold—the Acropolis of Athens, before it became "the world's desire," the crown of the Golden Age; that wide-wayed city of renown, where, now and then, a minstrel, one of that shadowy group whose united songs make up what we now know as the Homeric poems, "climbed the steep slope of the Acropolis to sound his lyre on the threshold of the goodly house of Erectheus."

But in the shifting movement and spectacle disclosed in these epic and picturesque pages, we are reminded that the Acropolis has been for three thousand years the stage of a continuous life, more active, more far-reaching in its influence, than the life of any other plot of earth; and that the shifting scenes, century after century, the destructions and the restorations, the replacing of the old and crude with the embellishments of an age of refinements and luxuries—these had al-

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most completely obliterated every vestige of the city of the heroic age. Only in these later days—the yesterdays of the calendar—has the prehistoric Athens been disclosed by the light of scientific research.

Mr. Butler's literary manner is well adjusted to the changing forms and colors of his theme. Even as, in his earlier chapters, he yields himself to the glamour of the fine old fables, to the "tales that hold children from play, and old men from the chimney corner," boldly blending mythology with attested history,—so, with almost impatient eloquence, he recounts the later glories of "the City of the Violet Crown," as he tells us how the fame of the medieval Athens was spread abroad in Europe, and the title of "Duke of Athens" became familiar in the courts of Italy, France, and England. Dante refers to Theseus by that title; Chaucer applies it to the legendary hero; and Shakespeare introduces him in his "Midsummer Night's Dream." But how little remains "to remind us of the time when knighthood was in flower on the Acropolis"!

Persian, barbarian, Venetian, and Turk had sacked and spoiled in the name of war; but there was to come a monster more ruthless, more stupidly impious than either of these—the "enlightened European" tourist, the relic-hunter, the Cheapside ghoul! When Dalton, the English draftsman, visited Athens in 1749, to make his drawings of the Parthenon, "more than half of the sculptures of the ancient shrine had disappeared from their places in the pediments; and the metopes and the frieze were in a shocking state."

Fifteen years ago, practically nothing, says Mr. Butler, was known of a wonderful period of art-activity in Athens; the Persians, it was supposed, had swept every trace of it from the sight of man; but the discoveries of Cavvadias, in 1886, reveal to us that delectable group of sculptures called by the Germans, affectionately, *die Tanten*—slender maidens daintily clad and with their tresses plaited, standing, mute and sweet, about the shrines of Athens. And here they are delightfully pictured, "in all their archaic charm, radiant with color, almost breathing in their lifelike beauty."

STRANGE NEW ENGLAND STUDIES.

JETHRO BACON OF SANDWICH. THE WEAKER SEX. By F. J. Stimson. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 222 pp. Price, $1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons.

IN his dedication of these two virile novelettes to the editors of *Scribner's Magazine* and *The Atlantic Monthly*, in which they first appeared, Mr. Stimson labels them "two studies of New England strength of character." Usually rectitude enters into such a connotation. In these carefully written and laboriously strong studies, the phrase means force, determination, cleaving to the thing desired at the cost of pride, convention, and judgment.

Jethro Bacon is a Cape Cod man who cultivates a cranberry patch on that wild, lonely horn of land. Somehow the sympathy of the reader is not enlisted in Jethro, but he is strong, devoted, and loving, with a sort of hard, obstinate sense of self. The woman who awakens and returns in kind, at vastly greater cost to herself, these emotions is not Mrs. Jethro Bacon. It is a girl whom Jethro knew from her babyhood, and whom he began to love when she was a young woman, cranberrying in his patch. Then the cleaving to one another began, and it lasted thirty years, being interrupted only by his death, which was followed by Barbara's a day or two later.

Such a love can not but have something ennobling in it; but Mr. Stimson depicts it with no glow, no moments of passionate tenderness. The rendering of the story in its fashion, color, mood, is "a study in New England character." Mr. Stimson ("J. S. of Dale") did, years ago, an exquisite love-story, "Mrs. Knollys," which none of his later and more ambitious work has thrown into the shade. His style is strong, graphic, and studied, rather than polished. The picture of narrow Cape life is Dutch-like in color, sobriety, and veracity. But one never feels the artist warming up to or kindling over his work. He is irritatingly impersonal. Aldrich is thoroughly Bostonian in temperament and style, but he is transfused with cosmopolitanism and delicious humor, light and elastic if not convincingly spontaneous. One always feels Mr. Stimson's hand on his stylus, and his heart is judicial ever, which is a usurpation of the prerogative of the brain.

Yet the "studies" are interesting, if not enthralling. It is like partaking of an excellent luncheon with a slightly morose host. "The Weaker Sex" is by no means the equal of "Jethro Bacon." Here, too, a woman is deeply devoted to a man, but the man is a cheap weakling on whom she is thrown away. There is something idyllic in strong, reticent Jethro Bacon's devotion to his woman; but you only pity the wife for her fealty to her husband in "The Weaker Sex." The former story is consistent throughout and the characters are sharply wrought and worth telling about, despite their narrow horizon. They are types, and you do not feel as if Mr. Stimson was "making up" his story. In "The Weaker Sex," where everything is in a far more usual setting and the characters more conventional, you feel the mental fabrication and see the joiner-work.

Mr. Stimson does one thing which lays him open to criticism. He makes Jethro Bacon become a Catholic, and Barbara, too. Their relation for years had been illicit, no matter how Love extenuated and redeemed their close union. Mrs. Jethro was a woman whom not to desert meant courage and virtue. But no priest would have administered baptism to the recreant pair unless they had abandoned their improper relations. Apparently they had not.

A FRENCH SOUL AS REFLECTOR.

THE REFLECTIONS OF AMBROSINE. By Elinor Glyn. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 310 pp. Harper and Brothers.

THIS is quite a charming book in its way. "The Visits of Elizabeth" have found a worthy successor in the philosophic Ambrosine, who "reflects" so amusingly. In justice to the author it may be remarked at the start that she declares, in a note, that these are the only novels for which she is responsible, and that any future work of hers shall be signed.

This sort of light, piquant babbling, in a knowing fashion, of the smart world, and the airy fluttering around immorality with brazen *naivete* is not exalted art, but to many makes grateful reading. It fills, if not a need, a craving. So far as it is credited with being a transcript of modern high life in London, it has some value as a study in contemporary morals; but writers of aristocratic life are, too usually, not so close to it as the lychgate is to the church.

ELINOR GLYN.

However, it is unimportant in a beguiling but frothy book like "The Reflections of Ambrosine" whether it be anything save entertaining. That it certainly will be to all who like literary syllabub. Moreover, there are skill in the construction, knowledge of human nature, good character-drawing, and a strong love interest.

The "Ambrosine" who reflects has three important relatives: grandmamma, "brought up at the court of Charles X."; the grandmother of grandmamma; and a distant cousin, Sir Anthony Thomhurst, of Dane Mount. The great-great-grandma of Ambrosine, whose namesake she was, died in the French Revolution. "She was so good-looking that Robespierre offered to let her retain her head, if she would give him a kiss, but she preferred to drive to the guillotine with her friends, only she took a rose to keep off the smell of the common people, and, they say, ran up the steps smiling. Grandmamma has her miniature, and it is, she says, exactly like me."

Ambrosine is trained by her grandmamma, who is eighty-eight years old, to the Faubourg St. Germain manner in "thought, word, and deed." They are very poor, but have exquisite taste. Grandmamma has a friend, almost as old as herself, who comes regularly to see her, and they discuss morals, religion, and philosophy. Ambrosine listens, and here is where she begins to "reflect." "For morals," she observes, "it seems one may do what one pleases, as long as one behaves like a lady."

Grandmamma gets blue about her lips one day, and, feeling that her end approaches, hastily marries Ambrosine to a sorry lad named Gurrage, with much wealth. In the mean time, Sir Antony Thomhurst has appeared on the scene, and Ambrosine and he are in love. As Ambrosine did not need to "reflect" deeply to perceive that a lover was not a startling episode in the married life of her set, and her own husband was behaving quite scandalously, it is much to her credit that she declines to tarnish her wifely honor.

Augustus Gurrage dies and leaves Ambrosine very rich. Then everything looks all right. But she sees for the first time, in Paris, the daughter of Lady Tilchester, the one woman who had seemed to her above the rest of their world. The peculiar eyes of the little girl tell Ambrosine a tale, and she sends Sir Antony his *conge*. He arrives soon after, and, as he holds her in his arms, Sir Antony admits the little episode of a dozen years ago, "when we were both very young."

Thereupon Ambrosine's last reflection concludes the book, and one must admit that it does not crown it with an aureole of sanctity: "I shall tell you something, Antony," she whispered. "I am glad I am doing no wrong, but if it was to break Lady Tilchester's heart, if grandmamma were to come back and curse me here for forgetting all her teachings, if it was almost disgrace—now that I know what it is like to stay in your arms—I should stay!"

THE King of Italy has signally honored two Boston authors, Mr. A. R. Willard and Mr. W. R. Thayer, in recognition of their contributions to Italian history. These writers were recently made "Chevaliers of Italy" and invested with the Order of the Crown by Signor des Planches, the Italian ambassador to the United States. The decorations are in form of a Maltese cross, the obverse of which bears the cross of Savoy, and the presentation took place at a dinner given by the Circolo Italiano in Boston.

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"Religion as a Credible Doctrine."—W. H. Mallock. (The McMillan Company.)

"An Old Sweetheart of Mine."—James Whitcomb Riley. Illustrated by Howard Chandler Christy. (Bowen Merrill Company.)

"Ad Astra."—Selections from Dante.—(R. H. Russell.)

"Ten Englishmen of the Nineteenth Century."—James R. Joy. (The Chautauqua Press, Springfield, O., $1 net.)

"A Survey of Russian Literature."—Isabel F. Hapgood. (The Chautauqua Press, Springfield, O., $1 net.)

"Reminiscences, Musical and Others."—Fanny Reed. (Knight and Millet, Boston.)

"Babylon."—A drama by B. H. Williams. (Published by the author at Danielson, Conn.)

"Handbook of Birds of the Western United States."—Florence M. Bailey. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., $3.50 net.)

"The Romance of the Colorado River."—Frederick S. Dellenbaugh. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, $3.50 net.)

"The Hudson River from Ocean to Source."—Edgar M. Bacon. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, $4.50.)

"French Cathedrals and Chateaux."—Clara C. Perkins. (Knight and Millet, 2 volumes, $4 net.

"Vienna and Viennese."—Maria H. Lansdale. (Henry F. Coates & Co.)

"Japan and Her People."—Anna C. Hartshorne. (Henry T. Coates & Co.)

"Social Life in the Early Republic."—Anne H. Wharton. (J. B. Lippincott Company, $3 net.)

"The Great World's Farm."—Selina Gaye. (The Chautauqua Press, Springfield, O., $1.)

"Literary Leaders of Modern England."—W. J. Dawson. (The Chautauqua Press, Springfield, O., $1.)

"Manchester Al Mondo."—Sir Henry Montague. (Henry Froude; Oxford University Press, London.)

"The Old Schoolhouse and other Poems and Conceits in Verse."—F. Denison. (F. S. Denison, Chicago, $1.)

"The Dancers."—Edith M. Thomas. (Richard G. Badger, Boston, $1.50.)

"Guide Right; Ethics for Young People."—Emma L. Ballow. (March Bros., Lebanon, O., $0.40.)

"My Spirit's Flight."—Cecil J. Denton. (Scroll Publishing Company., Chicago, Ill.)

"Nature and the Camera."—Radclyffe Dugmore. (Doubleday, Page & Co., $1.35 net.)

"Boston Days."—Lilian Whiting. (Little, Brown & Co.)

"Theologia, or the Doctrine of God."—Revere F. Weidner. (F. H. Revel Company.)

"Immortality and Other Essays."—Charles C. Everett. (American Unitarian Association, $1.20 net.)

"The Old-Testament Bible Stories."—Walter L. Sheldon. (W. M. Welsh & Co., Chicago.)

"A Wanderer's Legend."—Maxwell Sommerville. (Drexel Biddle, Philadelphia.)

"The Homiletic Review Index."—Volumes XXXI. and XLII. inclusive. Compiled by Daniel S. Gregory. (Funk & Wagnalls Company.)

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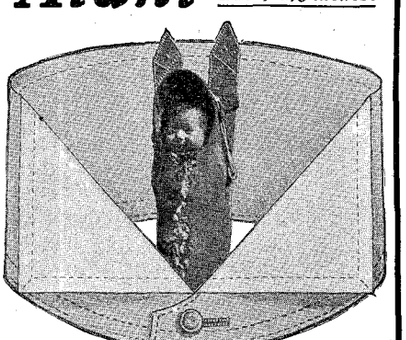

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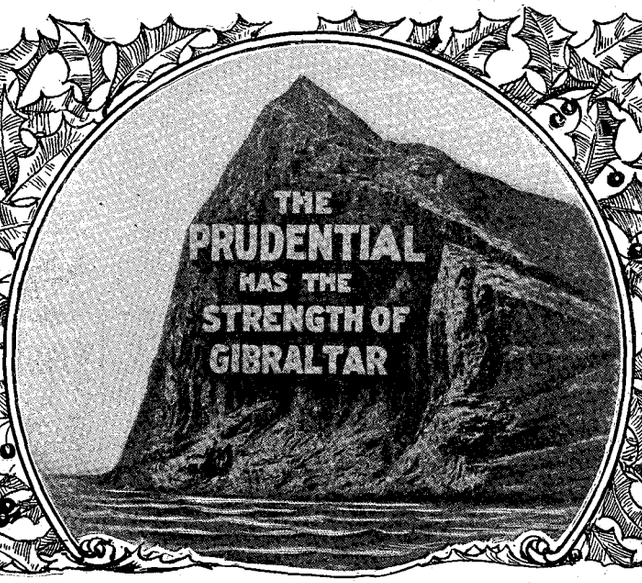

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CURRENT POETRY.

Christmas Verse.

[The yule-tide brings with it the customary amount of Christmas verse, from which the following selections are taken:]

THE CITY OF DAVID.

By CHARLES HANSON TOWNE.

A little Babe this place has glorified!
  A little Child upon His mother's breast
Once breathed a blessing that has never died
Upon these little streets that, side by side,
  Run east and west.

His little presence—He who was a King—
  Still, still is felt amid trade's pulsing breath;
The thought of Him is like a living thing
That blooms amid the Oriental spring,
  And knows no death.

At midnight, when the stars in clusters rise
  Above this sacred city; when the moon,
Pallid and old, in the far heaven lies;
Or when the torrid sun in these hot skies
  Broods at high noon,—

Ever there wakes the thought of Him once more,
  Tho long and long ago His mother came
One winter night to yon poor stable door.
Yea, here lives on, to-day, as years before,
  His love, His name!

—In December *Criterion*.

THE MERRY CHRISTMAS DANCE.

By FRANK L. STANTON.

De fiddler in de corner, des a-pattin' of his feet,
De fiddle-bow a-gwine, en a-makin' music sweet;
En Christmas times, good people, is de times what hard ter beat,
En we'll have a merry Christmas in de mawnin'!

We left de weary furrows whar de cotton blossomed white

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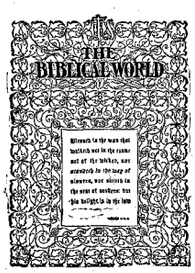

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En de summer-winds wuz singin', en de sun wuz blazin' bright,
En we reached de Lan' of Promise: Swing yer partners left en right!—
En we'll have a merry Christmas in de mawnin'!

De white folks in de big house hear de happy fiddles soun',
En dey come to see de dancin', en dey standin' all eroun';
Let de music come a-ringin'!—ain't we kiverin' de groun'!
En oh! de merry Christmas in de mawnin'!

Don't keer erbout de patter of de sleet 'pon top de shed—
We gwine roun' lak shadders whar de fire blazin' red;
En glory halleluia shakes de shingles overhead—
Glory halleluia, 'twell de mawnin'!

Hans' roun' de creakin' cabin 'twell de very roof you lif'!
En you skeer de ha'nts ter kiver whar de weather freeze 'em stiff!
But—keep one halleluia 'twell we holler "Christmas Gif'!"
In de merry, merry Christmas in de mawnin'!

—In Frank Leslie's *Popular Monthly*.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

By WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.

In the Christmas *Harper's Weekly*, Mr. Howells gives, in verse, on account of a visit he had toward the end of August from Santa Clause who instructed the poet "to write about the Christmas Spirit for the next Christmas number of the *Weekly*."

But the dreamer, for of course it turns out to be a dream, caustically arraigns Santa as follows:

. . . . "One moment, my dear friend!
You may be Santa Claus, as you pretend.
You look it, somewhat, but as Santa Claus
You are no nearer than Poseidon was
To the true Christmas Spirit. Oh, I know
What you will say about the new-fallen snow,
And stockings by the chimney, and the trees
Hung with the tinseled overflow from these,
Mistletoe, ground-pine, holly wreaths, and all
The garnish for the transoms and the hall;
Presents of every sort, and Christmas geese
And turkeys for the poor, to leave in peace
The rich man with his conscience; for the bowl
Of wassail generous liquors, and the whole
Catalog of your holiday paraphernalia
Borrowed for Christmas from the Saturnalia
You used to riot in, you ancient fraud,
Who turn your nose up at a heathen god—
Look at your nose!" The feat was difficult,
And he attempted it without result;
But *I* looked at it, and I made it turn
From purple-red to crimson-red and burn
To a dull ashen-gray in the fierce blaze
Shot from my highly concentrated gaze.
"Look at your cheeks!" I shouted, "with that net
Of pimples and congested veins that fret
Their surfaces; and if you would despise
Yourself as you deserve, look at your eyes,
Bloodshot with drunkenness and gluttony!
Then drop your glance, in utter shame, and see

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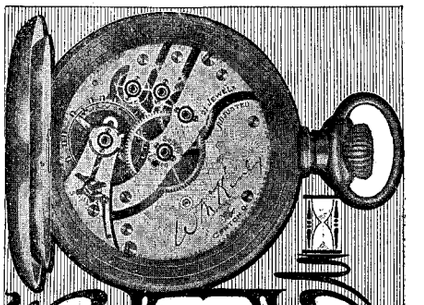

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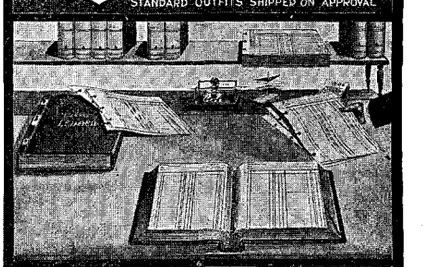

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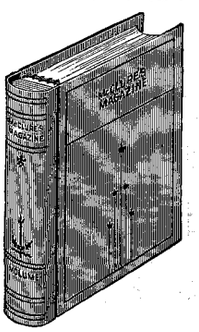

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The tremulous, pendulous paunch that has displaced
Anything like the semblance of a waist
You ever had! You old, profane buffoon,
With a face like a dissipated moon,
You dare to call yourself the Christmas Spirit?
Off of my grass! Get your reindeer and clear it
Off of my beach, before I go and bring
Action against you all for trespassing!
You call yourself the Christmas Spirit, you
Who never imagined anything to do
At Christmas-tide, except on Christmas eve,
Mock with bright dreams the children who believe
That you come down the chimney, and then fright
Their surfeit with nightmares all Christmas night;
And at those awful early family dinners
Inspire the saints to gormandize like sinners,
And in the riot to which you have won them
Lose all the good the sermon might have done them;
Who fill the Christmas week with every folly,
And bring the New Year in with melancholy
Thoughts of bills payable, and the ruinous rifts
Made in men's pocketbooks by Christmas gifts
Not blessed to her who thought she had to give
More than they were to him who must receive!
And do you fancy that you are the type
Of that which was fulfilled when time was ripe,
And peace was promised upon all the earth,
And unto men good-will with that great Birth
Which angels, thronging from the upper skies,
Prophesied in their glad antiphonies?
Off, hoary trifler! What have such as you
With sacred memories like these to do!
Poor, pagan outcast, derelict forlorn!
Back, with the perished gods and creeds outworn
From which you came, back into eldest night!

But Santa Claus has something to say for himself:

I will not speak of any good I do—
I leave all that to moralists like you;
But, in the course of pleasure, once a year,
I come to bring men's hearths a little cheer:
To scatter here and there a little kindness;
A little deafness and a little blindness
To one another's faults among you mortals;
And not distinguishing between your portals—
Or chimneys, rather—in my rounds I try
To visit rich and poor alike; for I,
Strange as it may appear, have found, indeed,
Every one living lives somehow in need
Of help, of comfort, and even of that jollity
You seem to have no use for in your polity.
Since you are virtuous, shall there be no more
Of cakes and ale? Aye, but there shall, galore!
I will see to it, with both meat and drink—
Oh, by-the-way! Now that I come to think,
What *are* your virtues?".....

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

The Question.—"What supports the sun in the heavens?" asked the country school-teacher.

"Why, its beams, of course," replied a precocious youngster.—S. S. TIBBALS in *Lippincott's Magazine.*

An Interruption.—A devout old gentleman was conducting family prayers, when his especial

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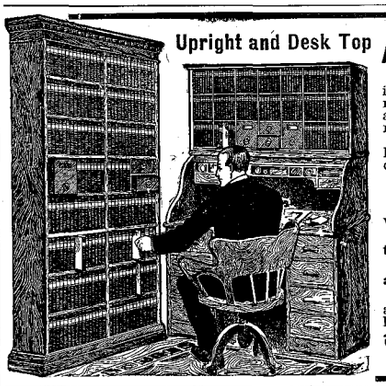

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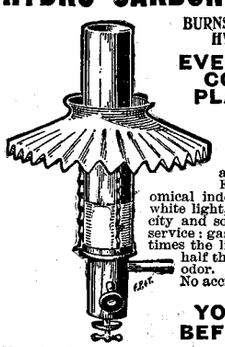

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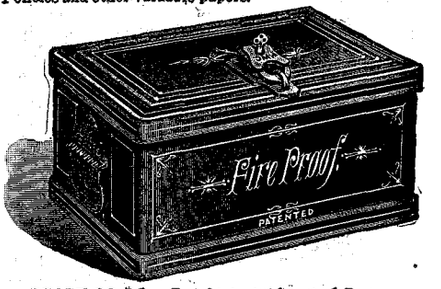

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antipathy, a cat, rubbed against him, and his hearers were amazed at his reading:

"And the Lord said unto Moses—Scat!"—MRS. A. M. GARDNER in *Lippincott's Magazine.*

The Lesson.—A Loafer sat on an empty dry-goods box and whittled.

"You'll never win success that way," said the Boy's Father to the Boy.

A Successful Man happened along.

"I wish I could be as happy as that fellow is," said he, gazing wistfully at the Loafer.

But fortunately the Boy did not hear this, and the lesson of thrift and industry sank deep into his heart.—*Life.*

A Manila Joke.—Mr. Ferguson was standing on the upper deck of the lake steamer, holding to a rope and watching the waves, when Mrs. Ferguson came hurrying up.

"George" she hurriedly exclaimed, "Johnny is dreadfully sick."

"Where?" asked the husband and father, preparing to go below.

"Where do you suppose he would be sick," she asked, shrilly, "in a storm like this?"—*The Manila American.*

Coming Events.

December 26–27. — Convention of the American Federation of College Graduate Clubs, at New York.

December 27–January 1. — Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Washington.

December 30.—Negro Workers' Conference, at Birmingham, Ala.

December 30–31.—Convention of the American Society of Naturalists, at Washington.

December 31,—Convention of the Astronomical and Astrophysical Society at Washington.

December 30–January 1.—Convention of the Geological Society of America, at Washington.

Current Events.

Foreign.

SOUTH AMERICA.

December 8.—Germany and Great Britain deliver a joint ultimatum to Venezuela demanding a satisfactory reply to claims for indemnity.

December 10.—The foreign fleet seizes all the war-ships of Venezuela in the harbor of the La Quayra; President Castro appeals to the people to take up arms against England and Germany and imprisons many German and British subjects.

December 11.—The British and German consuls, with other Britons and Germans, are imprisoned at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela; President Castro is sending reinforcements to La Guayra.

December 13.—Further preparations for war are being rushed in Venezuela; the Venezuelan consul at London declares that his country had suggested an adjustment of its debts by an $8,000,000 loan; President Castro appeals for arbitration.

December 13.—President Castro's reply to the German ultimatum is made public; the port of Puerto Cabello is bombarded.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

December 8.—The King of Portugal leaves England on his return trip home.

A new "Kaiser party" is formed in Germany.

December 9.—The committee of the House of

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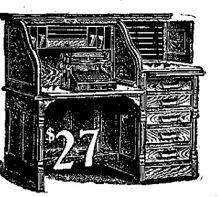

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Commons on steamship subsidies reports against the principle of subsides.

The Sultan of Morocco, it is reported, is defeated by the rebels.

December 10.—The Nile dam at Assouan is formally opened.

The international exhibition of automobiles is opened in Paris.

The pretender to the throne of Morocco surrounds the army of the Sultan.

December 11.—The Mad Mullah of Somaliland is reported to have been assassinated.

December 12.—Several persons are wounded in a collision between strikers and police at Marseilles.

December 13.—Queen Alexandra issues invitations to widows and children of soldiers of the South African War for a Christmas dinner.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

December 8.—*Senate:* The Immigration bill is considered and several nominations are considered.

House: Resolutions of sorrow for the death of ex-Speaker Reed are adopted and the House adjourned as a token of respect for his memory.

December 9.—*Senate:* The Immigration bill is considered.

House: The London Dock charge bill is defeated, the enacting clause being stricken out.

December 10.—*Senate:* The Statehood bill is discussed.

House: Congresman Grow, of Pennsylvania, discusses the relations of capital and labor in the United States. Two revenue bills are passed.

December 11.—*Senate:* The House bill to pay the expenses of the coal strike commission is amended and passed after a lively debate; the Statehood bill is considered.

December 12.—*House:* A number of private pension bills are passed.

December 13.—*House:* The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation bill is considered,

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

December 8.—Oliver Wendell Holmes takes his seat as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The Coal Strike Commission continues the taking of evidence in Scranton.

December 9.—The bar of the United States Supreme Court gives a dinner in honor of Justice Harlan, who has served twenty-five years in that court.

December 10.—John D. Rockefeller, it is announced, will give probably $10,000,000 to endow an educational institution similar to that founded by Andrew Carnegie.

The text of the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Newfoundland is made public.

The reciprocity convention is opened in Detroit.

Evidence is heard by the Coal Strike Commission of an alleged attempt to end the coal strike by bribery.

December 11.—The British and German Ambassadors in Washington express the thanks of their governments for the action of Minister Bowen in securing the release of British and German subjects arrested in Venezuela.

A delegation headed by Morris K. Jesup asks President Roosevelt and Secretary Hay to secure better treatment for American missionaries in Turkey.

December 12.—President Castro's proposal for

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Knox, Pa.
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Mrs. Eliza Duncombe.

St. Johns, N. B.
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C. J. Walsh.

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Chas. S. Curtis.

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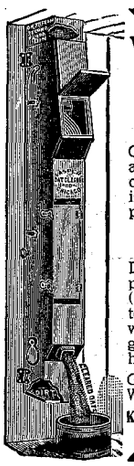

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arbitration, received through Minister Bowen, is submitted by the State Department to the British and German governments.

Labor leaders in Washington deny the charges that union workmen attempted to cripple the work on warships at the Cramp yards during the war with Spain.

December 13.—Lloyd C. Griscom is appointed minister to Persia.

Secretary Root makes an argument before the House Military Committee in behalf of the Army General Staff bill.

December 14.—Mrs. U. S. Grant dies at Washington.

CHESS.

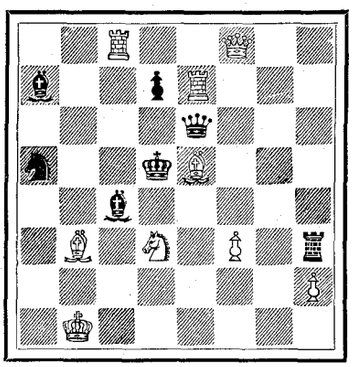
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

THE LITERARY DIGEST FIRST PROBLEM TOURNEY.

Problem 779.

XCVII.—MOTTO: "Jacques."

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

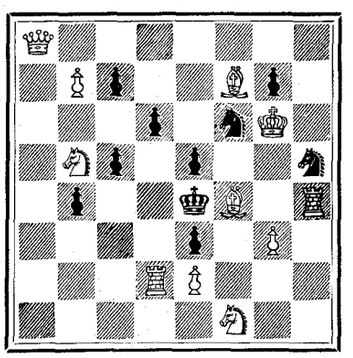
2 R 2 Q 2; b 2 p R 3; 4 q 3; s 2 k B 3; 2 b 5; 1 B 1 S 1 P 1 r; 7 P; 1 K 6.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 780.

XCVIII.—MOTTO: "Aut vincere, aut mori."

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Eleven Pieces.

Q 7; 1 P p 2 B p 1; 3 p 1 s K 1; 1 S p 1 p 2 s; 1 p 2 k B 1 R; 4 p 1 P 1; 3 R P 3; 5 S 2.

White mates in two moves.

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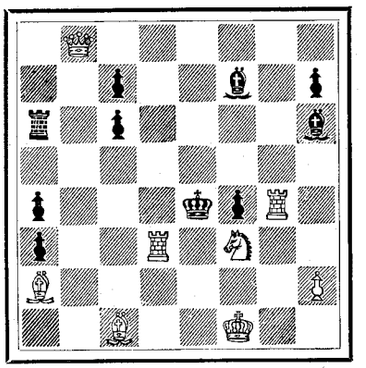
Problem 781.

XCIX.—MOTTO: "Suus cuique mos."

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

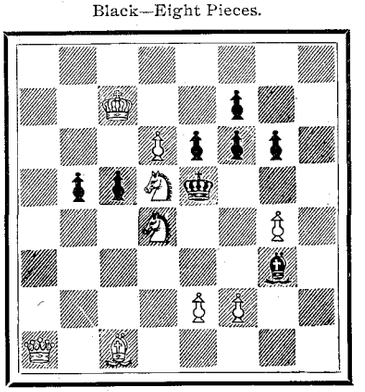
1 Q 6; 2 p 2 b 1 p; r 1 p 4 b; 8; p 3 k p R 1; p 2 R 1 S 2; B 6 P; 2 B 2 K 2.

White mates in three moves.

Problem 782.

C.—MOTTO: "Terra incognita."

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

8; 2 K 2 p 2; 3 P p p p 1; 1 p p S k 3; 3 S 2 P 1; 6 b 1; 4 P P 2; Q 1 B 5.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Tourney Problems.

No. 767. LXXXV.: Kt—K 4.

No. 768. LXXXVI.: Author's Key: Q—R 2.

Second solution: P x B P.

No. 769. LXXXVII.

1. Kt—R 7 / K x R	2. Q—B 4 ch / K—Q 2	3. Q—B 8, mate
1. ..... / K x B	2. Q—Q 2 ch / K—B 5	3. P—Kt 3, mate
1. ..... / R x B	2. R—K 5 ch / K x R	3. Q—K B 5, mate
	2. ..... / B x R	3. Q—B 6, mate

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1. ..... R x P 2. Q—Kt 3 ch, K x B 3. Kt—B 6, mate

1. ..... R—B 6 2. Q—K 4 ch, K—B 5 3. B—B 3, dis. ch, mate

No. 770. LXXXVIII.: Author's Key: Q—K R 3.

Second solution:

1. Q—Q B 3, B—K 5 2. Kt—Kt 4, mate

1. ..... Any 2. Kt—Kt 4, Any 3. Q—Q 3, mate

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; A. C. White, New York City; K. Kentino, Newark, N. J.; J. C. J. Wainwright, Somerville, Mass.; W. J. Ferris, Chester, Pa.; the Hon. Tom M. Taylor, Franklin, Tex.; A. G. Massmann, Newark, N. J.; C. B. E., Youngstown, O.; W. W. S., Randolph-Macon System, Lynchburg, Va.; A Knight, Tyler, Tex.; J. J. Burke, Philadelphia; "Malvern," Melrose, Mass.; the Rev. J. G. Law, Walhalla, S. C.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.

767: R. G. Eyrich, New Orleans.

767, 768: "Twenty-three," Philadelphia; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; E. B. Kirk, Montgomery, Ala.

767, 758, 759: J. E. Wharton, Sherman, Texas.

767, 768, 770: The Rev. S. M. Morton, D.D., Effingham, Ill; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; F. Edwards, Sewickley, Pa.

767, 769, 770: C. F. F., Rome, Ga.

767, 770: W. A. Walter, Bloomington, Ill.

Comments (767): "So simple that the motto should be double-beheaded"—M. M.; "Self-evident"—G. D.; "Very clever"—F. S. F.: "Such pretty examples of the 'four-way-out' are all right for every-day publication, but not for tourneys"—H. W. B; "Tyro's effort is rather reminiscent"—A. C. W.; "Good for its size"—K. K.; "Beautiful, and ranks high"—A. K.; "Simplicity and purity"—J. G. L.; "Extremely neat"—"Twenty-three"; "Pretty and ingenious novelty"—W. R. C.; "Very pretty"—J. E. W.; "An exquisite bit of Kt.-play"—S. M. M.

769: "Main variations, good; duals bad"—M. M.; "Easy, but good despite its faults"—G. D.; "The plan is excellent, but the duals condemn it"—F. S. F.; "Judged from the highest standpoint, it does not, throughout, live to its earlier promises"—H. W. B.; "Very pretty"—A. C. W.; "Excellent, in spite of duals"—K. K.; "Good, with fine traits"—A. K.; "A martial array"—J. G. H.; "Excellent"—J. E. W.

In addition to those reported, W. R. C. and Dr. T. B. Turnbaugh, Bloomfield, Mo., got 763, 764; Miss S. V. Spencer, Blackstone, Va., 757, 758.

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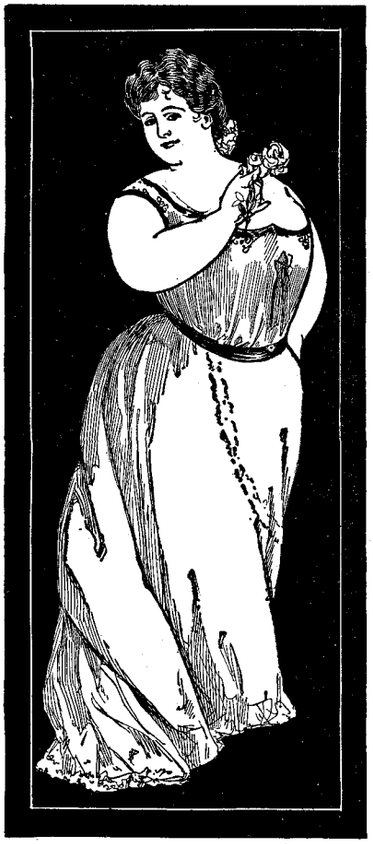

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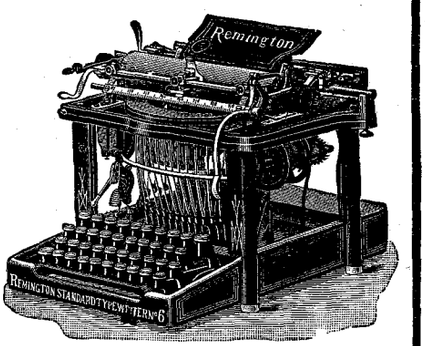

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